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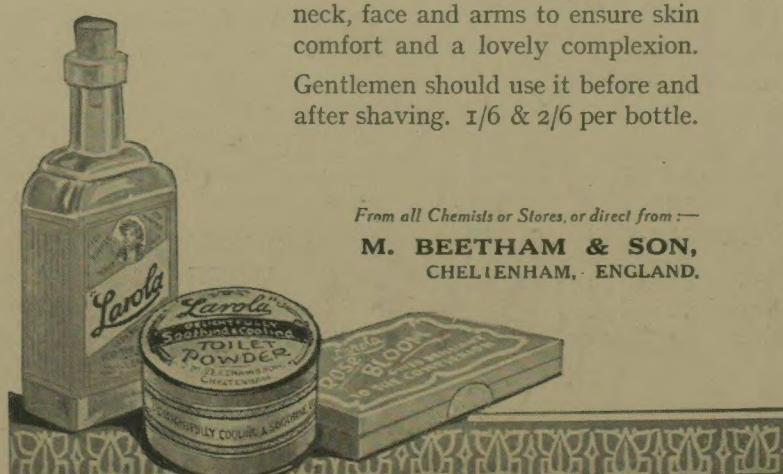


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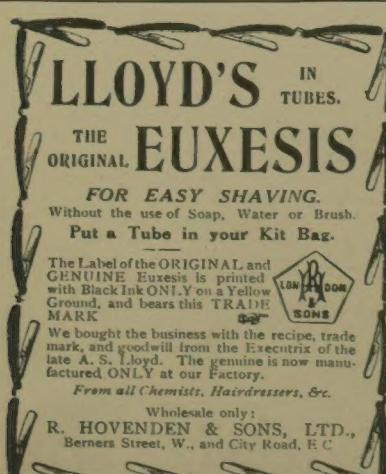
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In polished wood container with detachable wire carrying handle.

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PRICE 7s. 6d. 9d. per Volt

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Obtainable from any Exide Service Agent or your local dealer.

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WH 40-Volt	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. x 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. "	27 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	£1 17 6
WH 60-Volt	8 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. x 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. "	41 "	£2 14 0

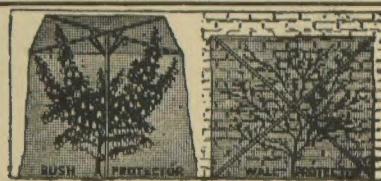
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JIG-SAW PUZZLES

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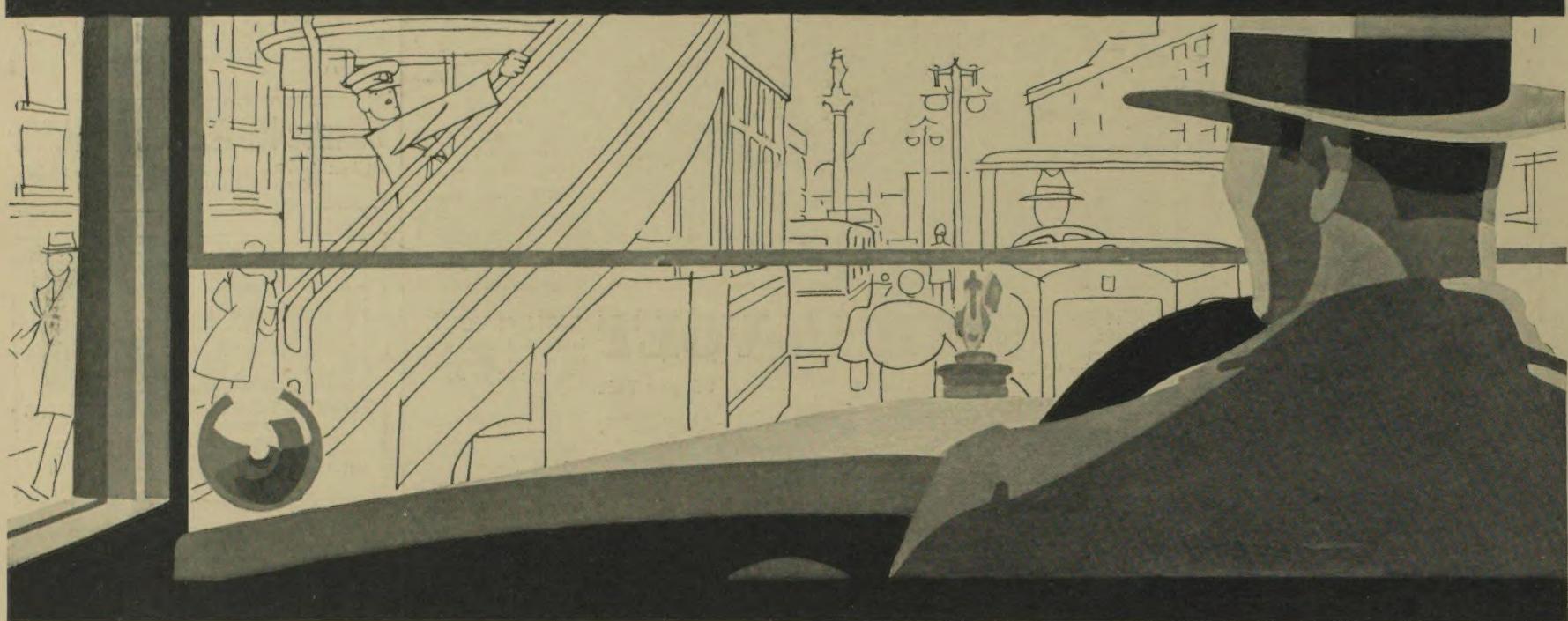
REPRODUCTIONS IN COLOUR-PHOTOGRAVURE FROM PICTURES BY WELL-KNOWN ARTISTS.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER FOR TRANSMISSION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND TO CANADA AND NEWFOUNDLAND BY MAGAZINE POST.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1928.

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A "WIND-SLAB" AVALANCHE, THE SKI-RUNNER'S GREATEST PERIL: BLOWN SNOW SPLIT INTO SLIDING BLOCKS WITH "A BOOMING, TEARING CRACK"—A RISKY TEST NEAR PONTRESINA.

The greatest and most subtle enemy of the ski-runner is known as the "wind-slab" avalanche. Loose snow is blown and compacted into great hard slabs. At first sight these appear perfectly safe, but the ski-runner rash or ignorant enough to traverse a "wind-slab" is soon disillusioned. There is a booming, tearing crack, and the whole outer shield of snow, often several feet thick, breaks off into a mass of sliding blocks. At once the ski-runner is carried off his feet and overwhelmed. Should the slope be a long one, or the avalanche a big one, his chance of escape is nil. Even if he is not suffocated beneath the snowy incubus, he is likely to be crushed to death by the weight of the snow blocks. Considerable

experience is required to detect a "wind-slab," but its presence must always be suspected on the lee side of ridges where the blown snow collects. To obtain this unique photograph a short slope of wind-slab was deliberately traversed, and an avalanche started. The photograph shows well the breaking away of a typical wind-slab, and the wind-rippled snow characteristic of such surfaces. The ski-runner on the left is trying to escape, while his companion is already involved in a mass of sliding snow. "There were friends present to dig us out if necessary," writes our correspondent, "But I don't want to try the experiment again, as I had my legs nearly broken by the weight of snow."



BY G. K. CHESTERTON.

THE editor often writes, "This correspondence must now cease" at the moment when it ought to begin. It is stopped because it is getting near the truth: but some controversies ought never to have begun and never get near anything. In justice to editors, it should be said that it is never easy for one of the controversialists to stop. In a paper with which I have conducted a sort of desultory debate, there is a further rejoinder, to which I must in courtesy briefly rejoin. The writer suggests that there may have been more dogma than we know in the mysterious religions of the pagans. The very doubt is a sufficient support of the distinction I made; for nobody can doubt that there have been such dogmas in the whole religious history of the Christians. The doubt is doubtless justified; but he hardly carries it far enough. Even when he says: "Is it not certain that they did believe in Jupiter and Juno?" I should be inclined to answer: "No; not so jolly certain as you seem to think; certainly as regards a great number of them." I make no pretensions to be a scholar, but some of the best scholars of the age have agreed with me, when I said that the degree of doctrinal seriousness of the old pagans about their gods is one of the most puzzling of riddles. It is by no means so very certain that a Roman believed in Jupiter as it is that a Catholic believes in Jesus Christ or a Mahometan in Mahomet. Nobody knows exactly how far the pagan often believed in Jupiter as a Christmas reveller believes in Father Christmas. The relation of popular festivity to pagan religion is something on which I quite agree that I cannot dogmatise. But about Christian dogma I am quite ready to dogmatise. There cannot be the slightest doubt that a definite, defiant, and quite unmistakable Thing had come into the world when the Creed was roared from a thousand throats in an ancient Council or a modern Cathedral.

It is so with the other point, of whether self-destroying progress is progress at all. I am quite content to leave the matter as even my opponent is obliged to state it. When progress has to be whittled down to a process which perpetually undoes everything it has done, and yet somehow "proceeds by trial and error to the truth," it seems to have become rather too thin a thing for all the praises of the progressives. I may remark that a criticism that corrects itself is not the same as a criticism that contradicts itself. It is very nearly the contradiction of it. We correct a thing because we wish to keep it and improve it in some respects. We contradict a thing because we wish to sweep it away altogether. The act of a man correcting a clock in the hall is not quite the same as that of a man smashing a clock with the poker. Mending is really the opposite of ending. Now what I say about the critical contradictions is that each of them is ended and not mended. It would have been better for the second critic if the first critic had never existed at all. This is not any argument against my proposition that criticism, if it is continuous at all, is continuously crumbling. It merely means that each criticism has to crumble completely to dust before there is room for another criticism.

But the last phrase brings us to a bigger question than that started by my little criticism, which has thus been criticised. When the critic speaks of

proceeding, not only by correction or contradiction, but "by trial and error," he adds that the result will be the truth. I have never understood on what this confident prophecy about our progress is built. I know that critics contradict each other; I will accept the phrase that they correct each other; but I cannot see why all these corrections must lead to something quite correct. Something of the sort may happen in very limited and technical material experiments, precisely because they are technical and limited. We may set out to make a flying-ship, and proceed in a sense by trial and error. Our first idea that it could be manufactured out of hot gum, blotting paper, and soda-water siphons is abandoned after the ninth trial. Our intuition that it can be constructed of rockets and feather-beds is

say we proceed by the process of trial; but we cannot always prove that it was a fair trial. We can say we approached truth by a process of error; but we cannot always convince the persons who erred that it was an error.

A great many people think the present tendency of our own civilisation is a triumph of truth and science. They think so because they not only like to see railway lines getting longer or motor-cars going quicker, but they actually like to see Trusts growing larger and monopolies growing more monopolist. But as I happen to like seeing a free man own a free field, or a human being doing something with his own head and hand, I do not think that the tendency towards Trusts is the tendency towards Truth. I do not think that our present progress is approaching truth by trial and error. I think it is getting further and further away from truth by hustle and hysteria. It may be, of course, that it will be followed by a reaction in the other direction; and we may say that in that sense the one movement has produced the other. But if I like the second and dislike the first, I should naturally prefer to have gone straight to the second without sticking for two hundred years in the first.



BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE CHINESE PIRATES WHO CAPTURED CAPTAIN LALOR: PEIYANG, ON THE YANGTZE, TO WHICH BRITISH GUNBOATS AND CHINESE TROOPS WERE SENT, WHEREUPON THE PIRATES DECOMPED, THREATENING TO KILL THEIR PRISONER.



CAPTAIN LALOR'S RESCUER: THE REV. FORBES TOCHER (RIGHT), THE SCOTTISH MISSIONARY WHO NEGOTIATED THE RANSOM AND WAS AWARDED THE C.B.E.—A PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN ON BOARD H.M.S. "APHIS" AFTER THE RESCUE.

These photographs were among the first to arrive from China, illustrating the affair of Captain Lalor's capture by Chinese pirates, and his rescue through the courage and energy of the Rev. Forbes Tocher, who negotiated the ransom of £2000. Captain Lalor was master of the S.S. "Siangtan," which was boarded by the pirates while at anchor below Ichang. He was kept in a cramped space aboard a sampan (small boat) moving from creek to creek. On December 5 he saw the British gun-boats "Bee" and "Mantis" going up river, and, seizing a pistol, tried to fire in the air as a signal, but in a scuffle he shot himself in the leg, which afterwards had to be amputated. His captors fled, but returned after the gunboats had passed (the shots, heard on board, had been put down to sniping) and twisted his injured leg. He knew nothing of any rescue till one day a motor-boat came alongside and took him aboard the "Bee." Mr. Tocher, who is in charge of St. Andrew's School at Ichang, won the M.C. as a chaplain during the war. He is a native of Banffshire, and was at the Universities of Aberdeen and Edinburgh.

perceived to be an error. But we perceive it to be an error because the soda-water does not act like petrol, or the feathers like wings. In other words, we discover that the flying-ship does not fly. But it is by no means so easy to settle exactly when a working system of human civilisation does not work. All such societies have something to be said for them and a great deal to be said against them. We can

I am not now arguing about whether my view of this matter is right; I am only pointing out that my view exists, along with very varied views about what really constitutes social happiness. And I am pointing out that the question of whether it does produce social happiness cannot be tested like the technical successes on which the argument is really founded. The flying-ship fails when it falls. But the bad social system may fail because it endures. Slavery, for instance, endured for centuries of high civilisation; and yet some of us are bold enough to say it was a bad system. Similarly, some of us are bold enough to say that monopoly is a bad system, and all the more of a failure the more it is a success. That is the point that weakens the parallel. The flying-ship cannot fail by flying, but the bad government may fail by governing.

But, putting aside modern realities, which are monopoly and machinery and the rest, let us consider merely modern ideals, which are still very often the ideals of liberty and humanity, and especially of a certain sympathy with youth and joy. I do not think that these alone are a complete philosophy, but let us take them as the test. Now, supposing that this modern humanitarianism is our ideal, I cannot see that the long period of Puritan manners and Calvinist theology was in any sense moving towards it. It was simply walking away from it until we were tired, and then having to walk all the way back. You may call this discovering Humanism by trial and error, if you like. But, even assuming that Humanism is much better than mediævalism, it is quite certain that many people stepped straight out of mediævalism into Humanism, without having to take this long and dreary détour. A man like Montaigne was more modern than a man like Knox; and I cannot see for the life of me why any civilisation need become like Knox in the far-off hope of becoming like Montaigne. It seems to me that there has been in history, as in human life, such a thing as sheer waste of time. And my thesis here has been that most criticism of the creeds has simply been waste of time.

BROTHER OF THE DUKE OF YORK'S NEW GOD-CHILD: PRINCE PETER.



THE CROWN PRINCE PETER OF YUGO-SLAVIA AT THE SALUTE
ON A CEREMONIAL OCCASION.



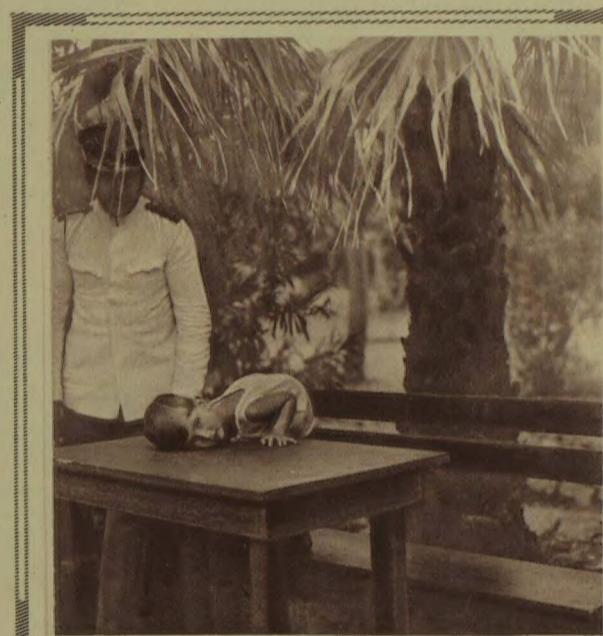
UNIFORMED AND ARMED FOR HIS OWN LITTLE WAR.



"KING OF THE CASTLE"—WITH HIS ENGLISH
GOVERNESS.



PLAYING WITH HIS MODEL AEROPLANE.



AT PLAY WITH HIS ADJUTANT.



BREAKFAST IN THE OPEN AIR.



A LOAD OF LEAVES FOR THE MOTOR-LORRY.

A second son was born to the King and Queen of Yugo-Slavia, at Belgrade, on January 19. According to Serb custom, the child was named at his first christening Znamenye (or Andrew), but at his second christening he will receive his definite name. It will be chosen by the Duke of York in his capacity of "Koom" (godfather) of the Yugo-Slav royal family. The Crown Prince was named Stephen at his birth, and renamed Peter at his ceremonial baptism. Little Prince Peter, who may one day be called upon to rule over the Kingdom

of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes, now known as Yugo-Slavia, was born on September 6, 1923, son of the reigning sovereign, King Alexander I., and his wife, Queen Marie, daughter of the late King Ferdinand I. of Rumania. His father, who was born on December 17, 1888, son of King Peter I., was Prince Regent from June 24, 1914, until August 16, 1921, when his father died. On November 6 of the same year King Alexander swore to the Constitution, and received full royal rights.

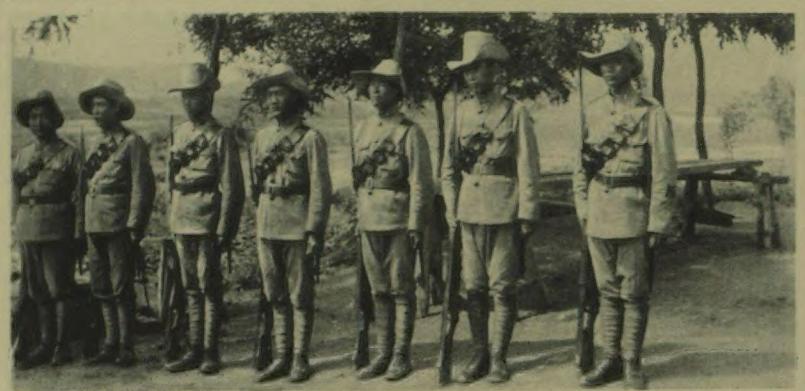
AN OASIS OF BRITISH PEACE AMID CHINESE CHAOS: WEIHAIWEI.



CROWNED BY A BUDDHISTIC LOTUS: A "BEEHIVE" TOMB NEAR WEIHAIWEI OF THE 13TH OR 14TH CENTURY.



BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO PROTECT THE DEAD FROM WOLVES AND OTHER WILD BEASTS THEN PREVALENT: BEEHIVE TOMBS AT WEIHAIWEI, BUILT IN THE YUAN DYNASTY (1280-1367) OR EARLY MING DYNASTY (BEGUN 1368).



CHINESE POLICE EMPLOYED BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AT WEIHAIWEI: MEMBERS OF A FORCE THAT HELPS TO ENSURE PEACE AND ORDER UNKNOWN AT PRESENT IN THE REST OF CHINA.



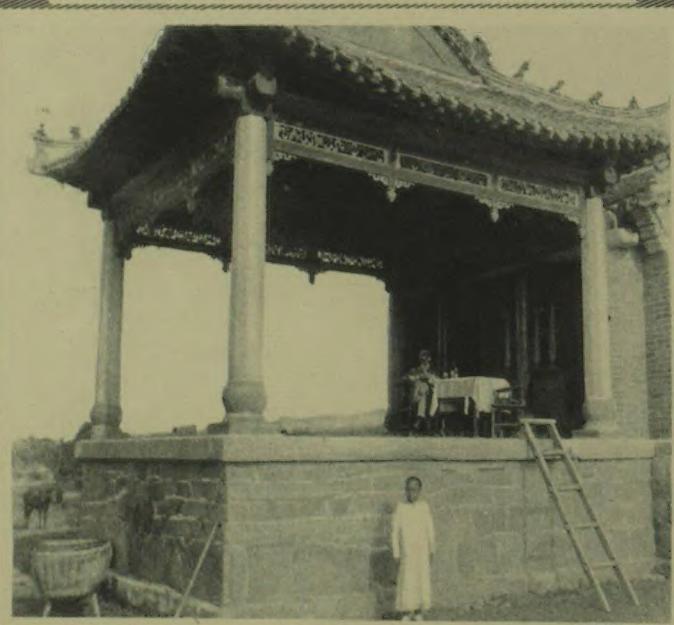
EXPRESSING THANKFULNESS FOR THE BENEFITS OF BRITISH RULE: A MONUMENT ERECTED BY CHINESE VILLAGERS.



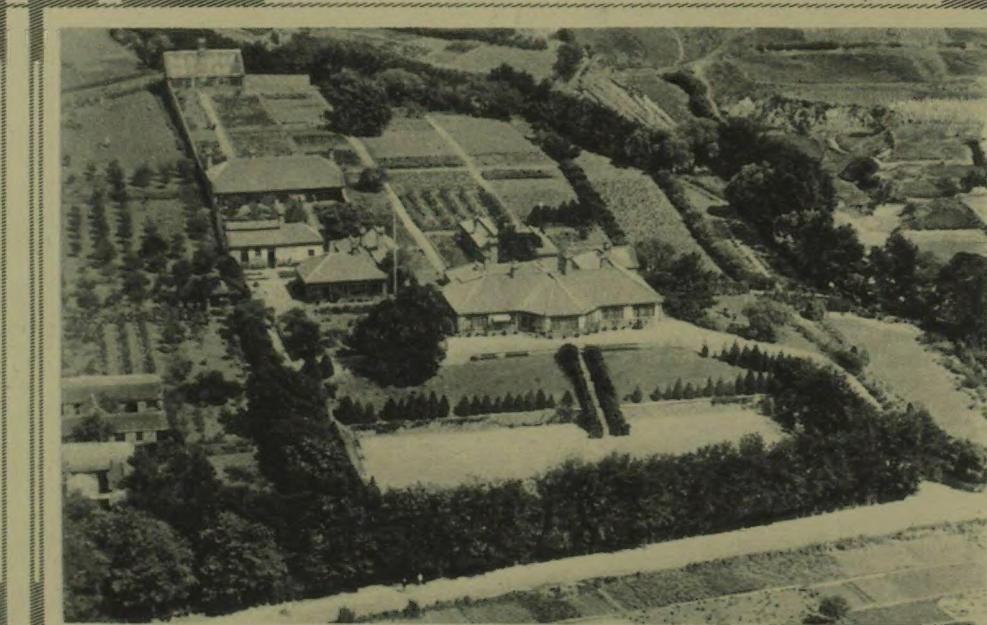
THE KING'S HOTEL AT WEIHAIWEI: A BUILDING THAT CATERED FOR MANY EUROPEAN VISITORS FROM OTHER PARTS OF CHINA ATTRACTED BY THE EXCELLENT CLIMATE AND UNDISTURBED CONDITIONS OF THE TERRITORY.



NOW USED AS A NAVAL CANTEEN: AN OLD CHINESE "YAMEN" ON THE ISLAND OF LIUKUNG, WEIHAIWEI—THE SUMMER HEADQUARTERS OF THE CHINA SQUADRON OF THE BRITISH FLEET.



IN THE ONLY PART OF CHINA WHERE PEACE AND CONTENTMENT REIGN: A CHINESE OPEN-AIR THEATRE AT WEIHAIWEI, ALSO USED AS A PLACE OF REFRESHMENT.



THE SEAT OF BRITISH RULE IN WEIHAIWEI, WHOSE NATIVE INHABITANTS APPRECIATE THE RESULTING BENEFITS AND ARE STRONGLY OPPOSED TO ITS RENDITION TO CHINA: GOVERNMENT HOUSE, WEIHAIWEI—A VIEW FROM A SEAPLANE AT 500 FT.

The territory of Weihaiwei, administered by Great Britain since 1898, is the sole oasis of peace amid the turbulence existing throughout the rest of China. It has an area of 285 square miles, and a population of about 170,000 Chinese, mostly farmers, distributed among 350 villages. The people have always shown themselves very friendly and well-disposed towards the British, and have even erected monuments recording in stone their thankfulness for the peace and prosperity they have enjoyed under British rule. The British Government, at the Washington Conference, expressed its willingness to hand Weihaiwei back to China, under suitable safeguards; but, owing to unsettled conditions in China and the absence of a recognised Government, rendition has not yet taken place. The

articulate members of the Chinese population hope that the British occupation may be prolonged indefinitely, and there is good reason to believe that the inhabitants of the adjoining Chinese districts would rejoice exceedingly if the area under British rule could be very greatly extended. But the British Government has no intention of reversing its policy as to rendition. The first Civil Commissioner of Weihaiwei was Sir J. H. Stewart Lockhart, K.C.M.G. The present Commissioner is Mr. R. F. Johnston, C.B.E., who was till recently attached to the staff of the ex-Emperor of China, and was formerly Assistant Colonial Secretary in Hong Kong. The territory of Weihaiwei is fully described in his book: "Lion and Dragon in Northern China" (London: John Murray).

A CONTRAST TO PEACEFUL WEIHAIWEI: A MILE OF RUINS AT CANTON.



AFTER THE "ORGY OF VIOLENCE" BY THE MOB OF "REDS" AT CANTON, WHERE THE DAMAGE EXCEEDED £2,000,000: THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT BANK LOOTED AND BURNED.



"CASUALTIES RAN INTO TWO OR THREE THOUSAND, WITH ALL THE ATTENDANT HORRORS OF TORTURE AND MUTILATION": CORPSES ON A ROAD AT CANTON AFTER THE SUPPRESSION OF "RED" TERROR.



"ONE STREET, THE FINEST IN CANTON, WAS COMPLETELY DEVASTATED": A SCENE OF DESTRUCTION IN THE WING HON ROAD, WITH A LONG LINE OF BUILDINGS WRECKED AND BURNT.



"WHERE, TWO DAYS BEFORE, FINE BUILDINGS HAD STOOD, ONE COULD NOW SEE A MILE ACROSS A HEAP OF RUINS": A GENERAL VIEW OF THE "RED RUIN" WROUGHT BY THE COMMUNIST RISING IN CANTON.

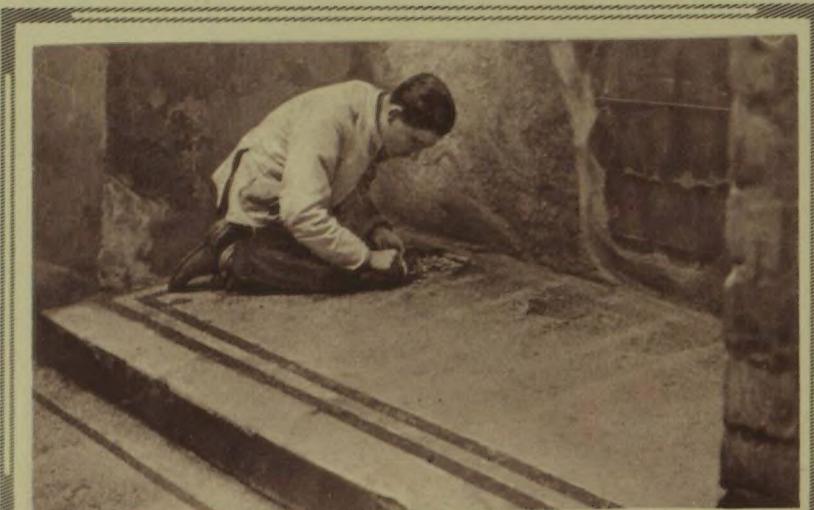


WHERE "SEVEN IN EVERY TEN OF THE LARGER SHOPS WERE LOOTED IN SOME DEGREE": RUINS OF A PAWNSHOP (IN THE FOREGROUND) IN YEUNG CHUNG STREET, CANTON, WITH A LOFTY BUILDING BEYOND.

No greater contrast to the tranquillity of Weihaiwei under British rule (as illustrated opposite) could be imagined than these scenes of destruction and bloodshed in Canton after the sack of the Chinese city by a rabble of "Reds" on December 11 and 12, and its subsequent recapture by troops and police. Describing the events, a "Times" correspondent writes: "At a cautious estimate, casualties ran into two or three thousand, with all the attendant horrors of torture and mutilation; and the tentative assessment of material damage at £2,000,000 may be considered absurdly low . . . about 1000 houses—many of a modern type—were destroyed by a single fire. . . . Shortly after 3 a.m. on December 11, the city was awakened by the sound of rifle and machine-gun fire, and the orgy of

violence had begun. . . . The rabble began such a welter of looting and murder as can rarely have been seen even in China. . . . Late on Monday afternoon the tide began to turn. The police, reorganised and reinforced by the troops of Li Fuh-lin, landed near Shameen. By noon on Tuesday (December 13) the city was once more in their hands. . . . The 'Whites' took a terrible revenge. Not the slightest mercy or quarter was shown to anyone under suspicion. . . . A few hours after it was all over I walked through the city. The scene was indescribable. . . . One street, the finest in Canton, was completely devastated, and where, two days before, fine buildings had stood one could now see a mile across a heap of ruins."

HERCULANEUM RISING FROM A MUD TOMB: MOSAICS; FRESCOES; BATHS.



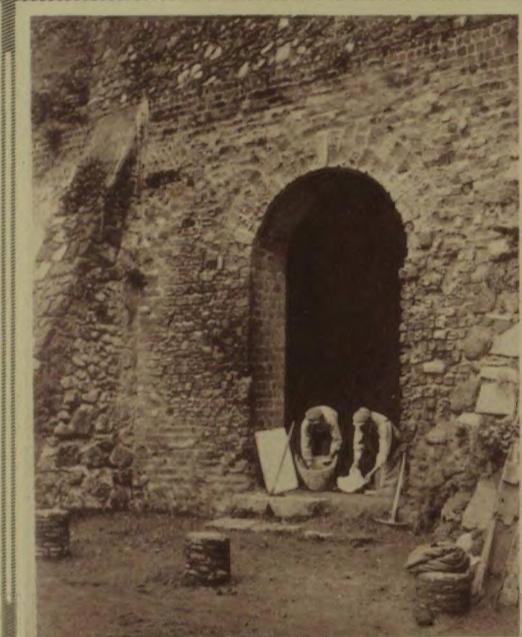
REPAIRING A MOSAIC FLOOR IN THE "HOUSE OF THE SKELETON" AT HERCULANEUM: A SMALL "SPARE ROOM" IN WHICH WAS FOUND A SKELETON, PERHAPS THAT OF A VISITOR ASLEEP WHEN THE DISASTER OCCURRED.



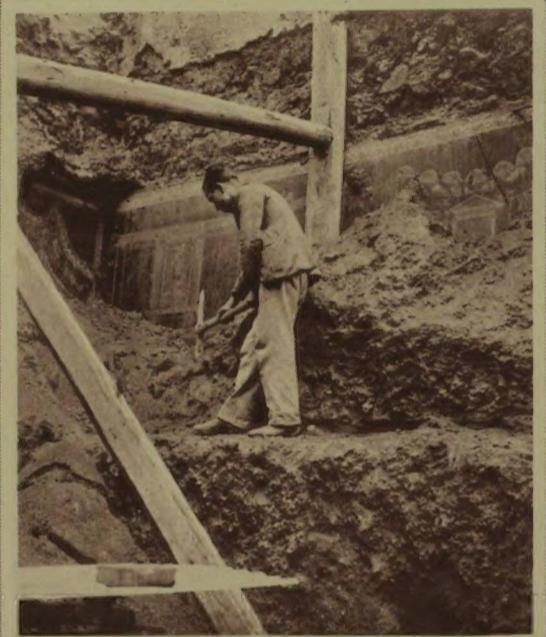
THE DIRECTOR OF THE HERCULANEUM EXCAVATIONS EXAMINING A NEWLY DISCOVERED WALL-PAINTING: PROFESSOR MAJURI BESIDE A FRESCO WITH BIRDS, A SNAKE, AND A TRIPOD.



SHOWING THE GREAT DEPTH OF THE MUD COVERING HERCULANEUM: ZEALOUS EXCAVATORS CONTENT WITH SMALL PAY AT WORK ON A SECTION.



ONE OF HERCULANEUM'S CHIEF PUBLIC BUILDINGS: THE BACK ENTRANCE TO THE THERMÆ, STILL COVERED BY 100 FT. OF MUD, SURMOUNTED BY MODERN HOUSES.



FRESCO-COVERED WALLS BROUGHT TO LIGHT BY MODERN METHODS OF EXCAVATION: CAREFUL DIGGING AND PROPPING TO KEEP BUILDINGS INTACT.



AN ANCIENT ROMAN PLEASURE CITY EMERGING FROM THE MILLION TONS OF MUD THAT OVERWHELMED IT AFTER THE GREAT ERUPTION OF VESUVIUS IN 79 A.D.: A SECTION OF THE EXCAVATIONS AT HERCULANEUM INVOLVING THE REMOVAL OF PART OF A MODERN TOWN—THE "HOUSE OF ARGUS," SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN THE HOME OF A WEALTHY ROMAN "PROFITEER."

Herculaneum was overwhelmed by a vast mass of mud shortly after the eruption of Vesuvius in 79 A.D. destroyed the neighbouring town of Pompeii. The present excavations at Herculaneum are under the direction of Professor Majuri, a distinguished archaeologist who has devoted most of his life to study of the two buried cities, and has the financial support of Signor Mussolini's Government. "The excavation," writes our correspondent, "is done by a small army of workmen and inspectors, all lovers of art satisfied with a small salary, which becomes a secondary consideration against the pleasure of contributing to researches of whose importance they are fully aware. They work with the painstaking care of

collectors, with almost religious zeal, their eyes ablaze with joy when the removal of a block of mud reveals a new wall, a new doorway, a new piece of mosaic, or a new treasure. If sufficient funds are forthcoming, Professor Majuri hopes that the excavations will be far enough advanced by the end of the summer to afford a good view of at least the whole eastern part of the town, near the great Thermæ (or Public Baths). They now lie under a group of modern houses, which sooner or later must be demolished. As quickly as excavations take place, they are followed by 'reconstructions,' a work which is now much more carefully done than in former times."



RESTORED AND PLANTED AS IT WAS IN THE DAYS OF CICERO AND SENECA THE GARDEN OF THE HOUSE OF ARGUS AT HERCULANEUM, WITH ITS BEAUTIFUL PILLARED COLONNADE



THE OLD METHOD OF EXCAVATION: EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY TUNNELS DRIVEN THROUGH THE SOLIDIFIED MUD THAT COVERS HERCULANEUM, MERELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXTRACTING ART TREASURES.



WHERE THE PLAYS OF PLAUTUS AND TERENCE DELIGHTED CULTURED ROMAN AUDIENCES OVER 1800 YEARS AGO: THE STAGE OF THE THEATRE AT HERCULANEUM, WITH ORCHESTRA PIT, PARTLY EXCAVATED.

THE RESURRECTION OF HERCULANEUM: A VILLA AND A THEATRE.



HOW THE THEATRE AT HERCULANEUM WAS ACCIDENTALLY DISCOVERED: AN UPWARD VIEW THROUGH A SHAFT 100 FT. DEEP SUNK IN 1719, AS A RESERVOIR, BY KING EMILIO, RULER OF NAPLES.



IN THE "WINGS" OF THE GREAT THEATRE OF HERCULANEUM, 124 FT. BELOW THE PRESENT GROUND LEVEL: WALLS AND PILLARS OF ROMAN BRICK, AND A CARVED PILLAR CAPITAL.

Much progress has already been made with the new excavations at Herculaneum inaugurated last year by the King of Italy. Recently a further 135 ft. of the ancient street of Decumano Minore, excellently paved like Pompeii, was unearthed, and the upper part of a villa came to light. The work involves the demolition of a mound of solidified mud 42 ft. high (riddled by tunnels made in Bourbon times in search of art treasures) and of a slum area in the modern town of Resina. In the older excavations further discoveries have been made, including frescoes, mosaic pavements, and an altar. Describing these former researches, our correspondent writes: "In 1719, King Emilio of Lorraine (then ruler of Naples) succeeded in reaching—by way of a large pit which he was constructing as a water reservoir—the gallery of the theatre, known to have been capable of seating

over 20,000 persons. This casual discovery was the beginning of further excavations, which arrived at the lower tiers and the stage, all beautifully preserved and full of precious statues and rich marbles. The theatre, however, was never brought completely to light, as a whole town (Resina) had been built on the ground above, and the theatre still remains embedded in clay, the stage and orchestra stalls being at a depth of 122 ft. below street level, and the gallery and upper tiers 34 ft. below the street tram-lines. No other excavations of any importance were begun for many years after 1719, except rudimentary 'tests' made by way of galleries, mainly to find works of art. Such 'tests' however, did more harm than good, and no real effort towards scientific excavation was made until the time of King Victor Emanuel II., between 1869 and 1875."

IVEAGH BEQUEST PICTURES AT THE R.A.: GAINSBOROUGHS AND ROMNEYS.

REPRODUCTIONS BY PERMISSION OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE IVEAGH BEQUEST.



"ANGELICA KAUFFMAN, R.A." BY GEORGE ROMNEY



"LADY HAMILTON AS ST. CECILIA." BY GEORGE ROMNEY.



"MRS. SHERIDAN." BY THOMAS GAINSBOROUGH, R.A.



"GEORGE IV. WHEN PRINCE OF WALES." BY THOMAS GAINSBOROUGH, R.A.

We continue here our series of reproductions of the Iveagh Bequest pictures, which are to be seen in the Winter Exhibition at the Royal Academy. Other illustrations appeared in our issues of November 26, 1927, and January 14 and 21 of this year. The following notes—for the most part from the official catalogue—are of interest. Angelica Kauffman was born at Coire, Switzerland, in 1740, daughter of John Kauffman, a portrait-painter. She came to London in 1765, and was patronised by Queen Charlotte. She was one of the foundation members of the Royal Academy. Her death took place in Rome in 1807. In connection with her

association with the R.A., it is interesting to recall that Mrs. Moser was also a foundation member of the Academy, and that the only women elected to the Academy since have been Mrs. Annie L. Swynnerton (A.R.A., 1922) and Mrs. Laura Knight (A.R.A., 1927).—Lady Hamilton was "Emma Lyon, a favourite model of Romney's; m. Sir William Hamilton, English Ambassador at Naples; became well known from her friendship with Lord Nelson; d. 1815.—Mrs. Sheridan was "the celebrated actress and singer, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Linley, the elder; b. 1754; m. 1772 Richard Brinsley Sheridan; d. 1792."

In the Iveagh Bequest: Romney's Favourite Picture.

BY COURTESY OF "APOLLO."



NOW ON VIEW AT THE ACADEMY: "LADY HAMILTON AT THE SPINNING WHEEL," BY GEORGE ROMNEY—ONE OF THE 63 OLD MASTERS BEQUEATHED TO THE NATION.

This picture, painted in 1787, and perhaps the most charming among Romney's many portraits of Lady Hamilton, is included in the late Earl of Iveagh's magnificent bequest to the nation of sixty-three picked works from his great collection. As we have noted in reproducing many other examples (in our issues of November 26 last, January 14 and 21, and the present number), they are on view in the current Winter Exhibition at the Royal Academy. The above portrait was shown in the Academy winter

exhibition of 1876. According to one of his pupils, Romney first got the idea of the setting from seeing a cobbler's wife seated at a stall. Describing the Iveagh Bequest in our issue of January 14, Mr. P. G. Konody says: "Romney is represented by his favourite picture, 'Lady Hamilton as Spinstress,' known all over the world by engravings and illustrations. It was painted for Charles Greville, but never paid for by him, John Curwen coming to the rescue." Later it was bought by Lord Normanton.

The Colour of Algeria: Italian Pictures Shown in London.

REPRODUCTIONS FROM THE ORIGINAL PAINTINGS RECENTLY ON EXHIBITION AT THE ARLINGTON GALLERY, OLD BOND STREET.



"THE MARKET PLACE OF BISKRA," BY GIUSEPPE AMISANI: A REMARKABLE STUDY OF ALGERIAN LIFE
BY A WELL-KNOWN ITALIAN PAINTER.



"M'CID (ALGERIA)," BY GIUSEPPE AMISANI: A PICTURESQUE VILLAGE NEAR BISKRA, IN THE "HICHENS" COUNTRY.

Giuseppe Amisani, the well-known Italian artist, recently held a "one-man show" of his paintings at the Arlington Gallery, from which several examples were reproduced, in black and white, in our issue of October 22 last. The exhibition was particularly notable for Algerian landscapes, and the two given here in colour will doubtless interest

readers familiar with descriptions of Biskra in the stories of Robert Hichens, as well as those who have seen the film from his novel, "The Garden of Allah," at the Tivoli. Signor Amisani has also done notable work in portraiture, among his sitters having been Princess Yolanda, Pope Benedict XV., and the poet Carducci.

"Caterpillars" and their "Babies" Blaze a Trail.

BEING AN APPRECIATION OF
"THE BLACK JOURNEY": By G. M. HAARDT and L. AUDOUIN-DUBREUIL.*

(PUBLISHED BY MR. GEOFFREY BLES.)

ON the fifteenth of October 1924, M. André Citroën hammered in the last nail of the packing-cases in which the motor-wagons for the Black Journey were transported to Colomb-Béchar. On the twenty-eighth the eight "caterpillars" rolled out across the Sahara, each with its attached "baby," as astonished tribesmen would dub the trailer. Military honours were rendered. "The engines turn, the vehicles cast off and reach the plateau. The African troops are there, under arms, to bid us a last

ferryings; endure the heat and the cold, rain and dust and mist; push ever on and on to the distant goal; and that they did it all triumphantly. For the general reader will find his chief attraction in the peoples met, queer blends of the primeval, the mediæval, and the modern, and survivals such as the pygmies of the Belgian Congo, who were recorded by Herodotus as existing on the shores of Africa, and probably occupied the whole of Equatorial Africa before the Ethiopian or Bantu migrations.

The first fine "specimens" were encountered at Niamey—Toufounis, and warriors riding out of the past. "They are covered with armor of startling colors, and wear plumed helmets"—these horsemen of the Djerma tribes of Sudie race—"Can they be of the company of Frederick Barbarossa? . . . Of a truth their caparisons and armor are not really genuine; they are made out of kapok mattresses; their helmets are fashioned of sheet iron and copper; but what are the fashions that their primitive costumes have copied? What oral tradition has brought down to them the memory of mediæval armor?

"These coverings seem to be very old. They were not made by those who wear them, nor by their fathers, nor grandfathers. Further than that the natives cannot count, and we may imagine an interesting hypothesis: did not the last two crusades bring on to African soil the knights of the West? What is to prevent our supposing that the Moorish caravans, led by the standard of the Prophet across the desert as far as the regions of the Niger and Lake Tchad, brought with them some of the armor taken from the crusaders in their victories? We may at least make this conjecture, even if we do not believe it entirely."

As to Toufounis, his skill was in the catching of bustards and wild ostriches by hand. "Toufounis wears on his forehead a piece of wood curiously wrought and representing the head of a *kalao*, the wading secretary bird. . . . The *kalao* is very difficult to approach. Does it make use of the hollow funnel of horn surmounting its beak as an amplifier of sound? The fact is that this strange bird scents danger from a great distance. It is the protector of the heavy flying bustard and the winged ostrich. The bustard requires a certain amount of time to fly away, and the ostrich knows that its way of retreat is circumscribed by natural obstacles. These two great birds have need of warning at the approach of danger; and so they seek out the neighbourhood of the *kalao*, which gives them due notice. . . .

"Toufounis, having remarked the pact existing between the bustard, the ostrich, and the *kalao*, found means to take advantage of it. Disguised as a *kalao*, his practice is to conceal himself in the tall grass from whence emerges a long beak attached to his long neck, which he moves about with his head in a most natural manner. The unwieldy and confiding birds come and place themselves under the guardianship of this false brother, who leads them straight to his nets."

Then the Sultan of Maradi, Serki Moussa, amongst whose escort was a leather-helmeted rider wearing the veritable coat of mail of a Templar—Serki Moussa, who rejoiced in his wives, but was troubled by the fact that he had a hundred mothers-in-law, for he had married four or five of the sixty-seven daughters of Barmou, Sultan of Tessaoua, whose harem numbers a hundred, and is thus far superior to that of Ekipondo, Chief of the Mangbetou, of the Upper Uélé, who has but fifty-three, each of them, however, with her own clearing when she becomes a favourite!

On the Chari and Lake Tchad other characters, notably the *capita* of the boatmen of the "Léon-Blot," fearful, like his crew, of the deep hole in the waters in which are engulfed those displeasing the Spirit of the Wind, the waves "higher than the residence of the Governor," the crossing obstructed by an army of monstrous hippopotamuses. "Here, as all over the world, it is faith only which can save; the *capita* is of the same opinion; round the tiller he has rolled his Mussulman beads, and, as two creeds are worth more than one, this prudent man places at his feet an iron tray filled with herbs chopped small and gathered at Djintilo before sunrise by a fetishist sorcerer: when mixed by him they act as a narcotic to the most turbulent spirits."

At Hoima, Tito Winyi, King of Buganda, wearing a white suit of irreproachable cut, but, in accordance with etiquette, "accompanied by a woman with her head shaven, draped in a violet toga like a Roman woman. She bears the title of 'the king's sister.' Custom decrees that a monarch in Uganda must always have an interchangeable mother or sister. If one or both are dead, his ministers choose a successor from among the members of his family . . . the 'sister' of Tito Winyi is only his cousin. She presents the appearance of a dowager who has been very well brought up, and her taciturnity is good augury of her being able to keep state secrets."

So from individuals to tribes. Here, amongst others, we encounter the Kotoko, so called from the cry, "Ko to ko . . . Ko to ko," used by the children as they drum against the sides of the fishermen's canoes to beat up the fish to the nets; the Sara-Massa, whose "plate"-women wear metal discs in the under-lip and the left nostril; the Sara-Djingé, whose women's upper-lip and lower-lip plates are of wood, may be ten inches in diameter, reduce speaking to a mumble, cause the teeth to fall out, and clack together like castanets as their burdened owners walk; the Ban'da, who were once cannibals, still serrate their teeth, and as

recently as 1903 or 1904 offered up four white men as a Fourteenth of July sacrifice at Ibenga, and ate them; the Azandé, dwellers in the Belgian Congo, where the name of Stanley, "Boula-Matari," "the man who blew up the rocks," still stands for authority; the Mangbetou, coppery-verdigris-bronze in colour, refined, with small feet and delicately shaped hands; that laborious husbandman the Logo; and, very especially, the pygmies already mentioned.

These last range from four to four-and-a-half feet in height. The travellers saw them at Arebi. The Manvu call them Mamvuti, more familiarly the Tick-Tick; and they are often regarded with superstitious awe. They climb trees like monkeys—they are the "gorii" (translated "gorillas") of Herodotus; they are fine archers at a short distance; they live in huts of leaves—and they were enticed into friendliness with bananas, salt, and smiles.

And, to hark back to individuals, note should be made of the "white" negro seen near Bondo: "a white negro," completely white but for patches of reddish brown, with pale blond hair and blinking red eyes—an albino. An albino is a degenerate type. The white negro is an object of great veneration in these parts. The family to which he belongs at once sees an inflow from Providence of benefits to its hut in the shape of offerings brought by those who wish to avail themselves of his protection." And the dead chief at the village called Vogpo, on the borders of Bangui, should have mention. "They have arranged a most elaborate toilet for the dead man: they have painted him red and decorated him with all his elephant-hair bracelets and necklets of shells, and adorned his head with a headdress of parrots' feathers. He has been planted firmly on his magisterial stool by the aid of a stake; in his hand is placed a jet knife with many strange-looking blades, of which he had been known to make very good use, either in defence or even, at need, in attack; for Ouayendé had been a prudent man; he feared to be killed, yet not to kill."

A gruesome figure, a symbol of the Africa that is passing, dying under the civilising weapons of the white—teaching and trade and transport—weapons to which such pioneering journeys as that of the Citroën Expedition give added potency. MM. Haardt and Audouin-Dubreuil are to be felicitated on the success of an enterprise thoroughly and patriotically planned and enthusiastically carried out. And their book will add to their laurels.

"Paris . . . the whirring of the factories where the expedition was prepared. . . . Colomb-Béchar . . . the eight cars leaving the oasis in pursuit of their great adventure . . . the scorching stretches of the desert . . . the Niger . . . the black Sultanates . . . Tchad . . . the fetishists . . . the sorcerers . . . primitive humanity . . . the savanna, the kingdom of wild animals . . . the forest, that last prehistoric retreat . . . the days of hard struggles when everything seemed against us—the sand, the burning sun, the rain, the mosquitoes; the thick mud of the marshes . . . then days of feverish expectation . . . finally the days of infinite joy."

E. H. G.



WEARING "MEDIÆVAL ARMOUR" MADE OF KAPOK MATTRESSES, AND HELMETS OF SHEET-IRON AND COPPER: HORSEMAN OF THE DJERMA TRIBES OF SUDIE RACES AT NIAMEY.

As is noted in the article on this page, the members of the Citroën Central African Expedition were welcomed most ceremoniously at Niamey. Amongst those greeting them were warriors of the Djerma tribes, who presented an extraordinarily mediæval appearance due to "armour" of kapok mattresses and helmets of sheet-iron and copper. It may be added that this picture was

reproduced in colours in our issue of November 20, 1926.

From the Painting by Alexander Jacovleff, the Artist of the Expedition.

good-bye—stolid legionaries, trustworthy Senegalese . . . Spahis resplendent in red, sitting upright in their saddles; Mokaznis with their blue mantles, perched on their lofty dromedaries. . . . Four airplanes spread their wings in the glory of the rising sun." It was the salute to adventurers faring forth to blaze the trail for automobiles to come—and flying-machines: "May we not say that it is a little in the interests of our winged brothers, the airplanes, that our caterpillars are on their way to creep over the soil of Africa for nearly 15,000 miles, reconnoitering sure routes and places suited for landing, in order that soon the air ways may be opened to regular communications, which will mark the beginning of a new era in the evolution of the Dark Continent?"

On the fourteenth of the following May one of the four groups into which the expedition had split at Kam-pala reached Dar-es-Salaam; two days later a second drew up at Mombasa; on the fourteenth of June a third halted at Mozambique; and on the first of August a fourth entered Capetown. A while and there was reunion at Tananarivo, capital of Madagascar, third largest island in the world, and "a far-away and isolated piece of France."

Thus ended the Citroën Central African Expedition under Georges-Marie Haardt and Louis Audouin-Dubreuil. The film shown in London at the suggestion of the Prince of Wales has familiarised the public with certain of its aspects; we ourselves have illustrated it on occasion, by means of photographs and the admirable paintings by M. Alexander Jacovleff; now comes the full tale, told by its leaders. And a most engrossing narrative it is.

Remarkable as it was, we can leave the achievements of the cars to the imagination: it is but necessary to point out that between outposts of Republic, Kingdom, and Empire they had to labour across desert sands; crunch through the *hammada*, "kingdom of stones"; make their tracks through forest and marsh; face the risks of

* "The Black Journey: Across Central Africa with the Citroën Expedition." By Georges-Marie Haardt and Louis Audouin-Dubreuil. Illustrated. (Geoffrey Bles; 16s. net.)



ONE OF THE "GORII" (TRANSLATED "GORILLAS") OF HERODOTUS: A PYGMY OF THE PEOPLE CALLED MAMVUTI, OR, MORE FAMILIARLY, THE "TICK-TICK." It would seem a fair assumption that in former days, before the Ethiopian or Bantu migrations, these pygmies occupied the whole of Equatorial Africa. They range from four feet to four-and-a-half feet in height. Certain travellers know them as the Wanda.

The Expedition saw them at Arebi, in the Belgian Congo.

From the Picture by Alexander Jacovleff.

"THE BLACK JOURNEY": DREADED LAKE; ANCIENT CITY; NATIVE VILLAGE.

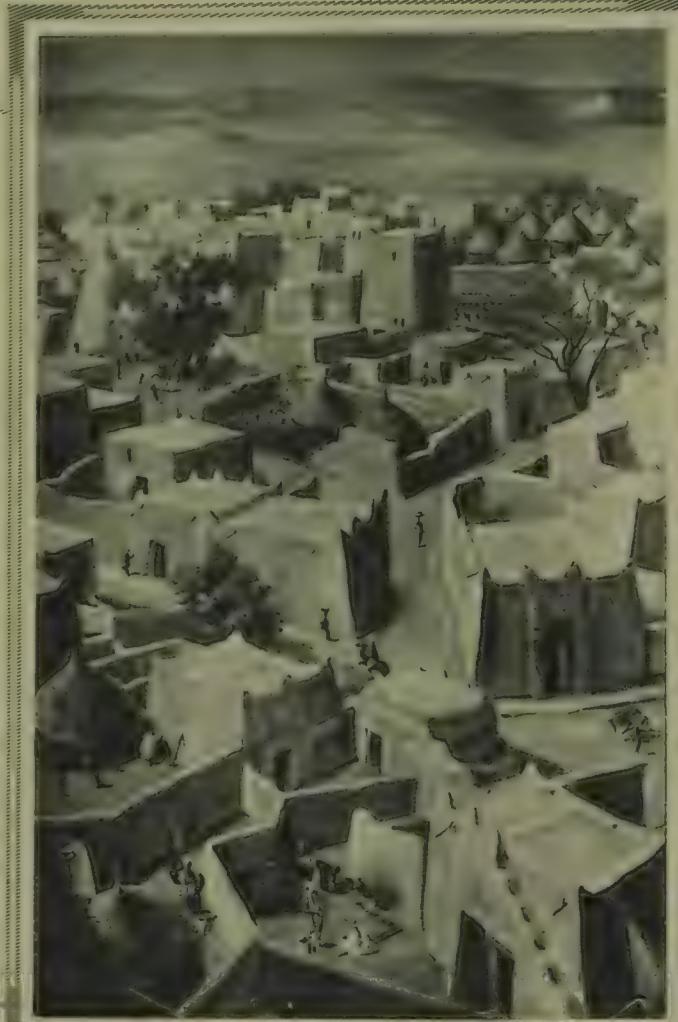
FROM THE PICTURES BY ALEXANDER JACOVLEFF, ARTIST TO THE CITROËN CENTRAL AFRICAN EXPEDITION.



"HAUNTED" WATERS REPUTED TO HAVE AN ENGLUFING HOLE IN THE CENTRE; WAVES HIGHER THAN THE GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE; AND GUARDIAN HIPPOPOTAMUSES! ON LAKE TCHAD.

THE pictures reproduced on this page, and on the page facing it, illustrate "The Black Journey" undertaken by the "caterpillar" motor-trucks of the Citroën Central African Expedition. It will be recalled that the film of the expedition was shown in London recently at the suggestion of the Prince of Wales. The book, "The Black Journey," is dealt with on page 133.—Lake Tchad is not viewed with equanimity by the natives, for Legend holds full sway. "In the middle of the lake there is a very deep hole into which all those who are displeasing to the Spirit of the Wind disappear; the waves are higher than the residency of the Governor; the crossing is obstructed by an army of monstrous hippopotamuses." All these troubles the capita of the "Léon-Bié" sought to

[Continued on page 133]



AN OLD CITY THAT HAS FORGOTTEN ITS TRAGIC HOURS: ZINDER, FORMERLY THE CROSS ROAD OF THE MIGRATIONS FROM ASIA ACROSS THE DESERT, AND STILL WITH A CITADEL.



IN A COLONY WHERE DWELL, AMONGST OTHERS, THE BAN'DA, FORMER CANNIBALS, WHO, AS RECENTLY AS 1903 OR 1904, SACRIFICED FOUR WHITE MEN TO CELEBRATE THE FOURTEENTH OF JULY: A VILLAGE OF OUBANGUI-CHARI.

[Continued.]

conquer—and it may be said, with success!—by the provision of Mussulman beads and herbs gathered by a fetishist sorcerer.—The native fortified village of the city of Zinder is a real Babel, for natives of various peoples and tribes throng in it. The European Zinder is at some little distance from the city, and has brick

houses with terraced roofs.—The Ban'da, who occupy the Oubangui-Chari region, were cannibals not so very long ago, and still serrate their teeth. The treacherous murder of the four Frenchmen mentioned above took place at Ibenga, south of Bangui, the capital of the colony.

"BLACK JOURNEY" WOMEN: TYPES MET BY THE "CATERPILLARS."

FROM THE PICTURES BY ALEXANDER JACOVLEFF, ARTIST TO THE CITROËN CENTRAL AFRICAN EXPEDITION.



The Mangbetou are distinctly refined in appearance; with small feet and delicately-shaped hands. The dress of the women illustrated in the "fresco" picture is a flimsy covering of basket-work.—The Matchaga were formerly slaves of the Mangbetou, and present the characteristics of the Bantu, "a lack of elegance both physical and moral." They are now richer than their former masters, and possess the best-looking wives, and the best villages built according to the canons of Mangbetou art.—It was under a tree at Fort Lamy, now an outpost of civilisation, that, on the evening of the victory of Kousseri, Commandant Lamy died; "this victory, destroying the bloody Empire of Rabbah, gave France possession of Tchad."

Ekibondo has his own clearing, Djendo, the first wife, has another one, and there is one for each of the Chief's other favourites—and she retains this even after she has ceased to be a favourite. "In short, Ekibondo reigns supreme, not only over one harem, but over a group, from which he derives both his pleasure and his supply of labour. . . . Ekibondo is a good father and likes playing with his children; he has thirty, which is not a large number for fifty-three wives. He shows us with pride a delicious little mite of five or six years with an oblong head . . . and then another one, with scared eyes, whose skull is bound with little cords of giraffe's hair, being in process of acquiring the traditional shape."

THE WORLD OF SCIENCE.

"STUNG" BY AN OCTOPUS!

By W. P. PYCRAFT, F.Z.S., Author of "Camouflage in Nature," "The Infancy of Animals," "The Courtship of Animals," etc., etc.

I HAVE just been shown a cutting from a newspaper which informs the world that a well-known public man, during a recent holiday in Madeira, had the misfortune to be stung by an octopus. That must have been a very wonderful octopus, and the zoological world will deplore the fact that the specimen

three of the short, spear-like spines of the first dorsal fin are also poisonous, though much less so than those of the gill-covers. Since this creature passes much of its time half buried in the sand, it is easy to see how readily it can be stepped upon. That this is no useless armature one may be quite sure, though we do not know precisely what other fish are its enemies. (The gurnard is supposed to be one of them, for this fish, as everyone knows, crawls along the sea-floor by means of long bony fingers, formed of elongated and freely movable fin-rays forming part of the breast-fin.)

There is this much to be said in favour of this little monster. He does not go out of his way to inflict injury; his weapons are purely for purposes of defence. And to this end he wears a "warning coloration," the body being conspicuously streaked with red, while between the poison-spines of the dorsal fin is stretched a web of black skin. By this token of red and black all his neighbours know him, and give him a wide berth. Our other species, the viperine weever (*Trachinus viphera*), is smaller, lives in shallower water, and is to be further distinguished by the presence of a fringe on the lips and no scales on the cheeks and gill-covers. But he is quite as much to be avoided. The name "weever," by the way, is probably a corruption of the Anglo-Saxon "wivre," a viper or serpent, and has reference to the poison-spines.

The bull-head (*Cottus*) and the dragonet, or skulpin (*Callionomys*), are two more of our native fishes to which poisonous properties are attributed. It is true that their gill-covers are armed with sharp spines which can inflict a painful wound—a tin-tack would do as much—but no poison-gland is associated with these spines. All the same, they are not pleasant to step upon with bare feet. Now that this theme of poisonous weapons among fish is being discussed, mention should be made of one or two of tropical seas, which can inflict very serious wounds. One of these is the surgeon-fish (*Acanthurus lineatus*), whose tail, just before its enlargement to form the fin, is armed on each side with a sharp and lancet-shaped spine (Figs. 2 and 3.) When at rest this spine is hidden in a sheath, but when splayed out it forms a most dangerous weapon, used by lashing the tail violently from side to side. The wound made is as clean-cut as though it had been made by a surgeon's knife. There are many species of this tribe, and they display varying degrees of perfection in the development of this fearsome weapon, which, it would seem, is present only in the adults.

We have yet to learn, however, to what use these surgeon's knives are put. We may assume that they are seen at their best in the carnivorous species—for some are apparently herbivorous. Are they used to inflict wounds on their prey? Some enthusiastic naturalist will doubtless set himself the task of solving this mystery one of these days. This hope is by no means a forlorn one, for Colonel Alcock, in his delightful book, "A Naturalist in Indian Seas," tells us that during his investigations in the Marine Survey ship *Investigator*, when anchored off Minnikoy, the sea was so clear that all the details of the seabottom could be plainly made out at a depth of as much as twelve fathoms. Here surgeon-fishes swarmed round the ship, and some they managed to hook. Not once, however, during the time these strange fish were under investigation were they seen to use their weapons. By a fortunate chance someone may yet solve the riddle for us. No less remarkable are the spines borne upon the dorsal fin of the

"Siluroids," or "cat-fishes." Unfortunately, I have no space now wherein to describe the singular mechanism of their attachment, but only to speak of the poisonous wounds they can, in many instances, inflict.

One of the most remarkable of this type is that which, for want of a name in common speech, I must call by its Latin designation, *Plotosus arab*. Found in all Oriental waters, from the Red Sea to Polynesia, it furnishes one of the most striking illustrations possible of what is meant by a "warning coloration," backed by a weapon of defence. Even when young it is of a rich purple-brown colour, and this is set off by two bright yellow bands running along each side of the body, like a hornet striped fore and aft instead of cross-wise.

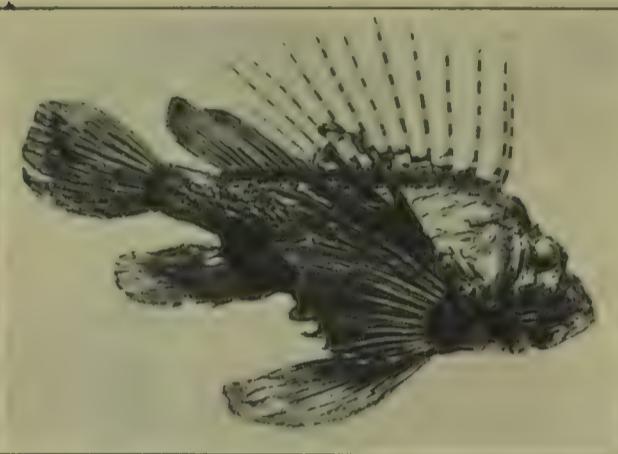


FIG. 1. WITH LONG DORSAL-FIN SPINES (UNCONNECTED BY MEMBRANE) THAT "CAN INFILCT SEVERE WOUNDS": THE INDIAN PTEROIS.

In the brilliantly red-and-white *Pterois* of Indian seas, the spines of the dorsal fin are of great length, and, having lost the web of membrane which in other fishes is stretched between them, they can inflict severe wounds. The coloration—red and white—is a well-known type of "warning coloration."

which achieved this feat was not captured; for, though the octopus has a rather evil reputation, no one ever imagined that its armoury of weapons of offence included one which could inflict a sting.

There is, doubtless, a substratum of truth in this report, and it is worth while to indulge in a little speculation as to what manner of creature it was which inflicted the sting, since to be forewarned is to be forearmed; for all who bathe in the sea run a certain amount of risk of an unpleasant experience of this kind. On a sandy beach most people will

not be surprised to find a weever-fish (*Trachinus draco*) or a surgeon-fish (*Acanthurus* spp.) lying buried in the sand. Both are well known to the bathers of the Mediterranean and the Indian Seas.

The surgeon-fish (*Acanthurus* spp.) is a remarkable fish, and its tail is the chief point of interest. The tail is armed with a sharp, lancet-shaped spine, which is hidden in a sheath when the fish is at rest, but which is exposed when the fish is disturbed. The spine is used as a weapon of defence, and can inflict a very serious wound.

We have yet to learn, however, to what use these surgeon's knives are put. We may assume that they are seen at their best in the carnivorous species—for some are apparently herbivorous. Are they used to inflict wounds on their prey? Some enthusiastic naturalist will doubtless set himself the task of solving this mystery one of these days. This hope is by no means a forlorn one, for Colonel Alcock, in his delightful book, "A Naturalist in Indian Seas," tells us that during his investigations in the Marine Survey ship *Investigator*, when anchored off Minnikoy, the sea was so clear that all the details of the seabottom could be plainly made out at a depth of as much as twelve fathoms. Here surgeon-fishes swarmed round the ship, and some they managed to hook. Not once, however, during the time these strange fish were under investigation were they seen to use their weapons. By a fortunate chance someone may yet solve the riddle for us. No less remarkable are the spines borne upon the dorsal fin of the

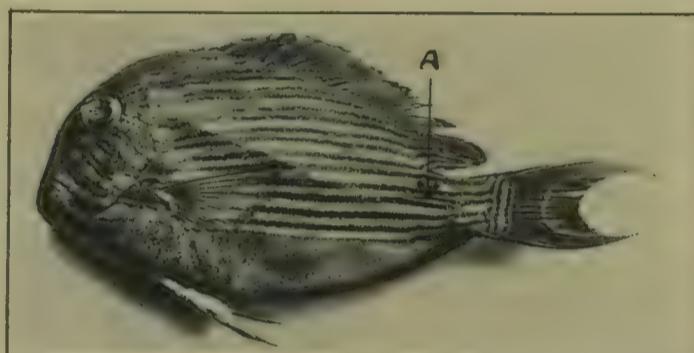


FIG. 2. ABLE TO INFILCT A WOUND "AS CLEAN-CUT AS THOUGH BY A SURGEON'S KNIFE": A STRIPED SURGEON-FISH (*ACANTHURUS LINEATUS*) SHOWING ITS "LANCET" (4).

Some of the Surgeon-fish are "warningly coloured," with vividly coloured longitudinal stripes on a dark background; while others, as in the case of Fig. 3, are "whole coloured," though this is of a "warning" hue. The wound inflicted by these lancets is very poisonous.

These are colours commonly combined in all sorts of animals with an offensive taste, or with lethal weapons—in this case the dorsal fin just referred to. Colonel Alcock speaks from experience of the painful and venomous nature of the wounds this spine can inflict, for he had the misfortune to be pricked on the forefinger by a little individual no more than three inches long, with the result that his arm was made numb and useless for several days afterwards, though curative remedies were applied the moment after the wound was inflicted.

The poisonous spine and the "warning coloration" in this case show a combination for defensive, and not offensive, purposes—if we may use the word "purpose" here. Any larger fish which attempted to swallow a *Plotosus* would speedily have cause to repent his temerity.

Never would the lesson be forgotten, for it would be recalled whenever the combination of vividly contrasted bands of yellow on a dark background was encountered during the search for

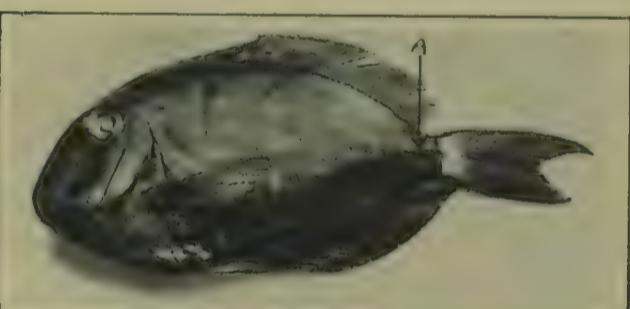


FIG. 3. SHOWING ITS "SHARP, LANCET-SHAPED SPINE" (4) NEAR THE TAIL: A SURGEON-FISH (*ACANTHURUS CHIRURGUS*) OF TROPICAL SEAS, CAPABLE OF INFILCTING "VERY SERIOUS WOUNDS."

The armature of the Surgeon-fish, which lives out in the open sea, takes the form of a pair of lancet-shaped spines, one on each side of the tail. When not in use they fold back into a sheath.

prefer to wade out into deep water barefooted, and this entails a risk—one chance in a hundred thousand—of stepping on a "weever-fish." Two species are fairly common around our own shores—they are to be found, indeed, in all European waters, and also along the shores of West Africa.

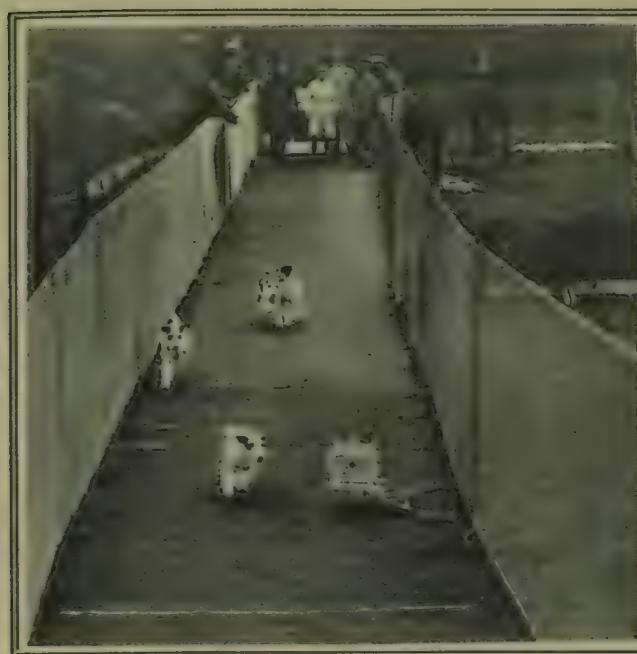
Our greater weever (*Trachinus draco*) is a marketable fish in France, and well may it be so, for its flesh is of excellent flavour. Even here at home it is sometimes eaten; but our fishermen, as a rule, prefer to throw away any they catch rather than run the risk of being pricked in the endeavour to cut off the poison-spines. The most venomous of these are the pair which project one on each side of the gill-cover (Fig. 4). When the skin which covers the basal half of the spine is removed, and a magnifying-glass brought to bear on the exposed base, the spine is found to be fluted, and embedded in a pear-shaped mass of cells secreting a poisonous fluid. This is set free and flows down the spine by the pressure exerted in forcing it into its victim's body. But the first



FIG. 4. WITH A POISONOUS SPINE (4) ON THE GILL-COVER THAT MIGHT STING A BATHER: THE WEEVER-FISH, THAT LIES IN SAND. Though the greater Weever-fish spends much of its life buried in the sand, it is hardly likely to be stepped upon by bathers, since it lies in water too deep for wading. The smaller relative, however, the Viperine Weever, lies close inshore, and might be stepped on, though the risk is remote.

food. Finally, then, though one need have no fear of being "stung by an octopus," the chances of being stung by a fish whether when walking bare-foot in the sea or swimming are quite possible risks, though these may be regarded as remote.

THE CAMERA AS RECORDER: NEWS BY PHOTOGRAPHY.



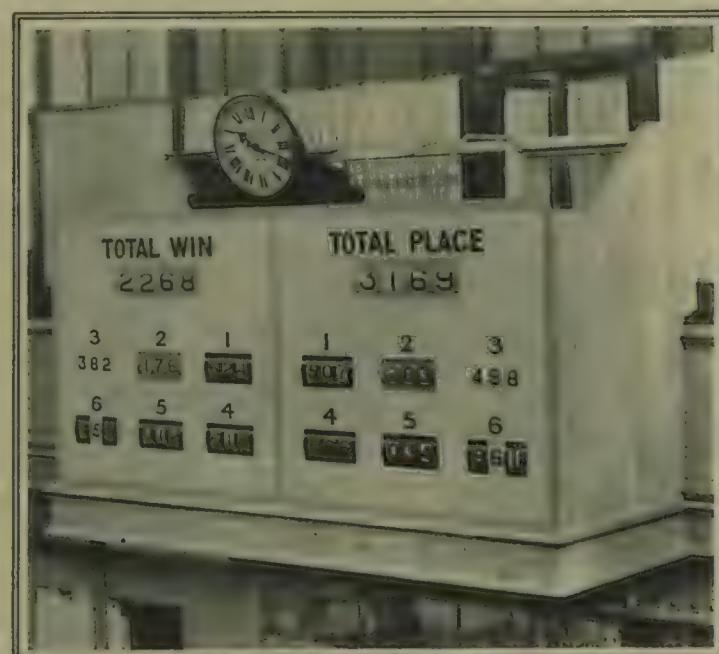
A MOST CURIOUS SEQUEL TO GREYHOUND-RACING: TERRIERS CHASING A MECHANICAL "RAT" (CAGE AND ALL!) DURING A TRIAL RUN ON A TRAINING-TRACK



TEN "HIS WORSHIPFUL" WOMEN AT LIVERPOOL: MISS MARGARET BEAVAN, THE LORD MAYOR OF LIVERPOOL, AND HER LADY-MAYOR GUESTS.



CURBING THE AGGRESSIVE PROPENSITIES OF CERTAIN RACING GREYHOUNDS: TYPES OF MUZZLES WORN BY DOGS TO PREVENT THEM FIGHTING WHILE RUNNING.



THE FIRST OF ITS KIND: THE MINIATURE TOTALISATOR AT THE STADIUM CLUB, FOR THE BENEFIT OF THOSE OF ITS MEMBERS WHO WISH TO BET ON GREYHOUND-RACES.



AN EXPERIMENT MADE IN NEW SOUTH WALES, BUT NOT LIKELY TO BE SEEN HERE: RACING GREYHOUNDS WITH MONKEY JOCKEYS "UP"; THE RIDERS WEARING THE OWNERS' RACING COLOURS.

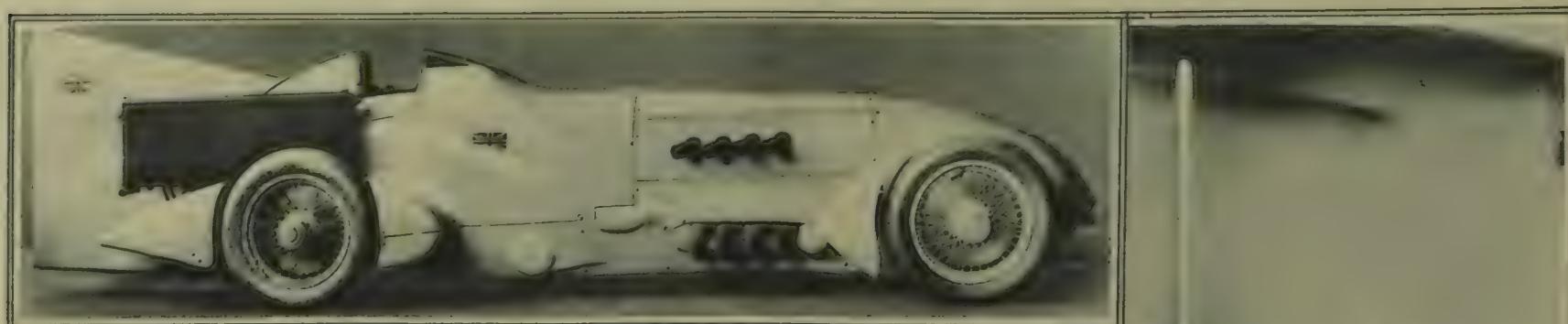
It was stated not long ago that fox terriers were to race at the Stadium Club, in London, chasing "electric rats." It now transpires that the first series of races will take place at that club on February 6, on the flat and over hurdles.—On January 19 Miss Beavan, who is the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, entertained nine of the thirteen women Mayors of England. They were Mrs. Foster Welch (Southampton), Mrs. Margaret Jenkins (Tenby), Miss Alice Hudson (Eastbourne), Mrs. Stuart Shaw (Lichfield), Mrs. Edwards Jones (Wrexham), Mrs. Cotterell (West Bromwich), Mrs. Elizabeth Lund (Pudsey), Mrs. Beatrice Drapper (Deptford), and Miss C. Helder (Whitehaven). At the reception at the Town Hall, each of these



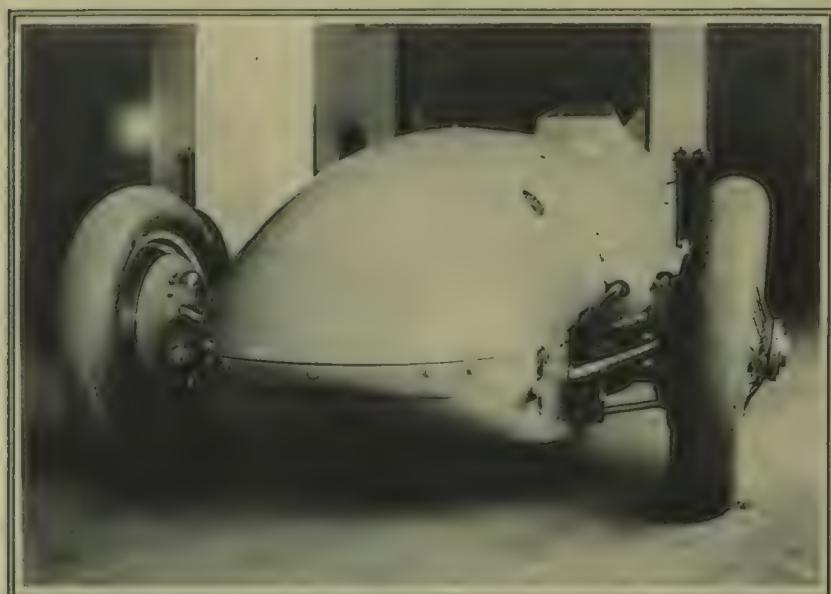
SAID TO BE THE FINEST ORANG-UTAN EVER SEEN AT THE "ZOO": SANDY, WITH HIS WIFE AND CHILD, ENJOYING THE ARTIFICIAL SUNLIGHT IN THE NEW EXPERIMENTAL MONKEY HOUSE.

guests was introduced as "His Worship the Mayor of . . ."—Certain greyhounds have caused trouble on the tracks of late by fighting one another during races, and thus making it necessary for contests to be declared void. Muzzles, therefore, are now worn more frequently than was usual.—There were included in recent greyhound-racing events in New South Wales flat and hurdle events in which monkeys acted as jockeys: this, of course, after special training.—Sandy and family arrived at the "Zoo" recently from the Malay jungles. The trio were scared into their travelling-box by being shown an Indian python, one of their hereditary enemies!

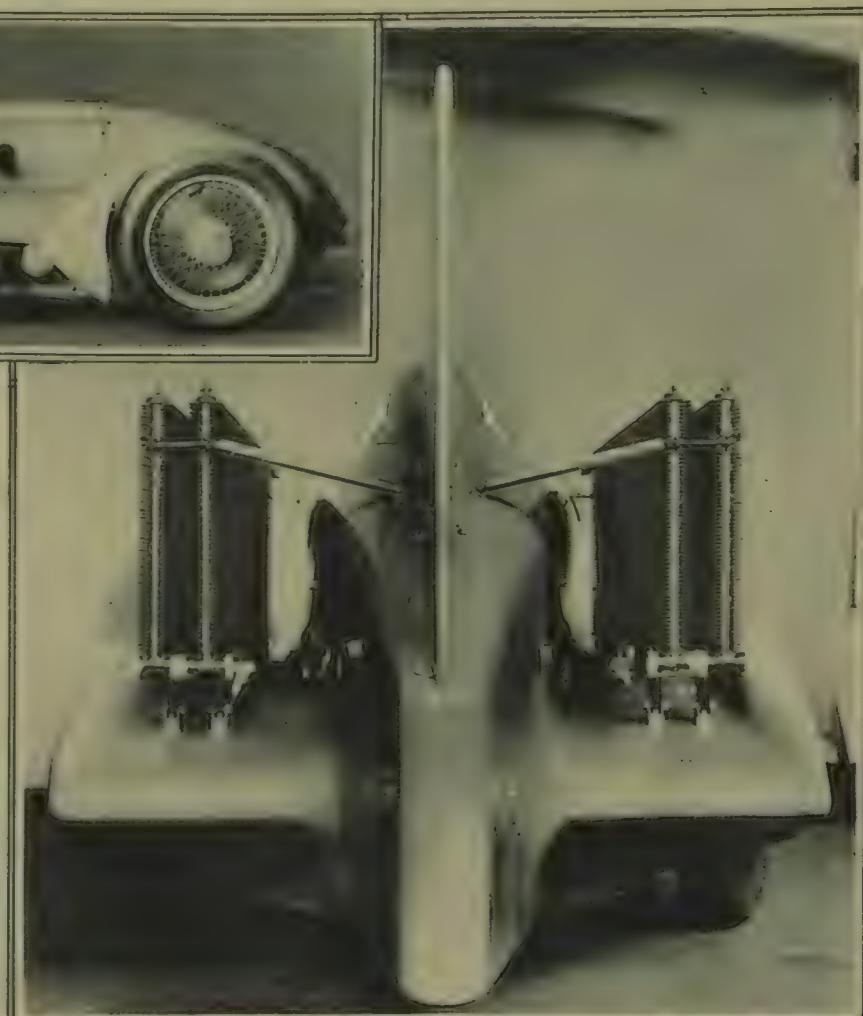
WONDER WORKS OF ENGINEERING: A RACING CAR; AND AN ARTIFICIAL LAKE.



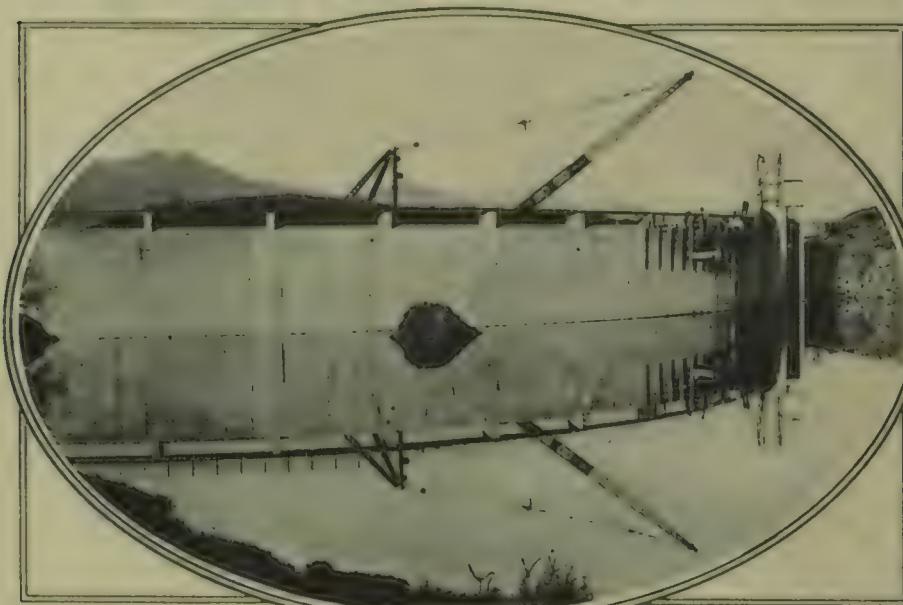
ALTERED TO ATTEMPT NEW SPEED RECORDS NEXT MONTH IN FLORIDA CAPTAIN MALCOLM CAMPBELL'S FAMOUS RACING-CAR, "BLUE BIRD," WITH DETACHABLE WINGS ON THE TAIL TO PREVENT SKIDDING.



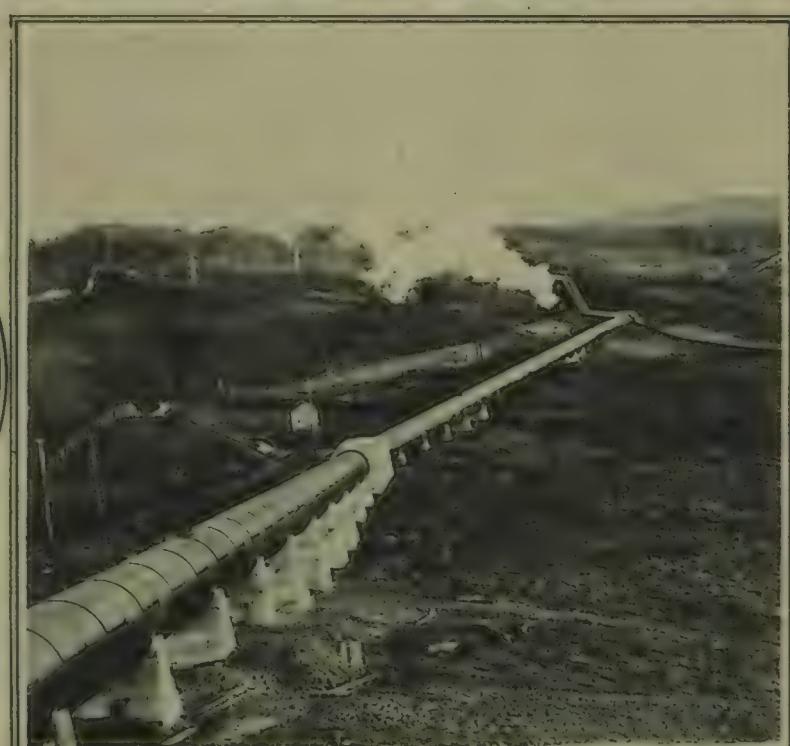
WITH A CAREFULLY STREAMLINED NOSE RATHER SUGGESTIVE OF A WHALE: A CLOSE FRONT VIEW OF CAPTAIN CAMPBELL'S RACING-CAR, WITH ITS NEW BARKER BODY DESIGNED TO REDUCE HEAD-RESISTANCE TO A MINIMUM.



FITTED WITH TWO FAIREY RADIATORS AT THE STERN, INSTEAD OF THE NORMAL RADIATOR IN FRONT: A BACK VIEW OF CAPTAIN CAMPBELL'S CAR, WHICH OWES ITS CHIEF IMPROVEMENTS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF AEROPLANES.



BUILT TO FORM A NEW ARTIFICIAL LAKE IN NORTH WALES IN CONNECTION WITH A GREAT ELECTRIC POWER SCHEME: A HUGE DAM OF REINFORCED CONCRETE NEAR TRAWSFNYDD.



CRAWLING ACROSS THE WELSH LANDSCAPE LIKE A MONSTROUS SNAKE: PART OF THE GREAT PIPE LINE CONNECTED WITH THE TRAWSFNYDD SCHEME—A VIEW FROM THE POWER HOUSE TOWARDS THE MAIN DAM.



THREE SQUARE MILES OF LAND IN NORTH WALES TO BE FLOODED TO FORM THE NEW ARTIFICIAL LAKE: A VIEW LOOKING TOWARDS THE VILLAGE OF TRAWSFNYDD, MERIONETHSHIRE, ON THE SLOPES IN THE BACKGROUND.

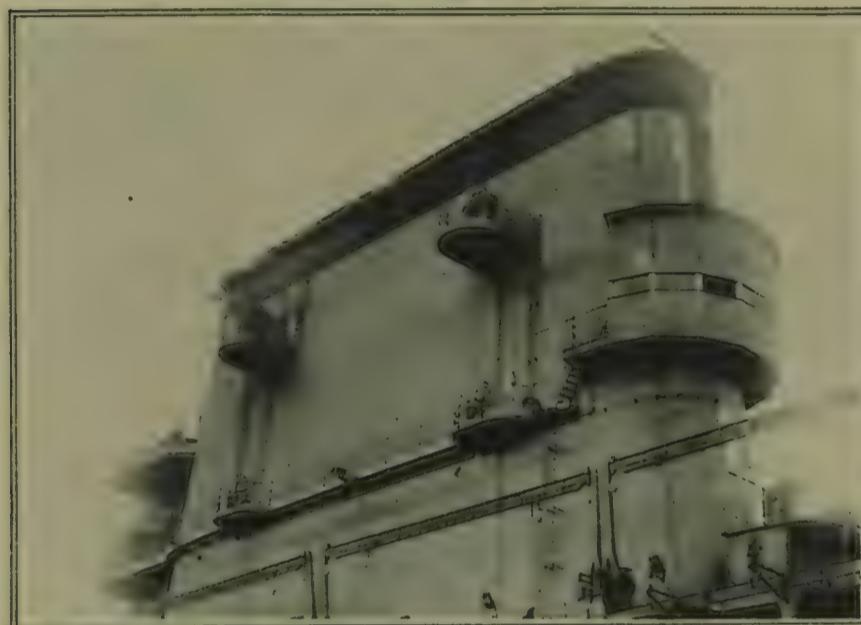
Captain Malcolm Campbell has had various important changes made in his racing-car, "Blue Bird," in which he will attempt to set up a new world's record for speed, at Daytona Beach, Florida, on February 23. For several improvements effected he is indebted to the progress of aviation. The car's new Napier aero engine of about 850 h.p. (instead of the 500-h.p. engine previously used) is similar to that used in the Supermarine seaplane which won the Schneider Trophy. The new body, built by Barkers, is also a result of aeronautical science. It has been carefully streamlined, after tests of various models in the wind-tunnel at the Vickers works at Weybridge, to reduce head-resistance to a minimum, and even the wheels are included, by fairings, in the protected shape of the car. The usual radiator in front has been replaced by two fore-and-aft radiators, made by the Fairey Aviation Company, at each side of the tail, and detachable wings are fitted to the tail to prevent skidding or yawing.—The new North Wales electric power scheme, on which a thousand men have been employed for three years, is expected to be in working order next July. It includes the formation of an artificial lake, three miles square, in a beautiful landscape setting, near the village of Trawsfynydd. A great dam of reinforced concrete has been built, two tunnels have been blasted through mountains, and many miles of steel pipes have been laid, varying in diameter from $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches to 9 ft. 6 inches.

"PERCHES" FOR A MODERN NAVY'S "HAWKS": NEW GIANT AIRCRAFT-CARRIERS, AMERICAN AND BRITISH.

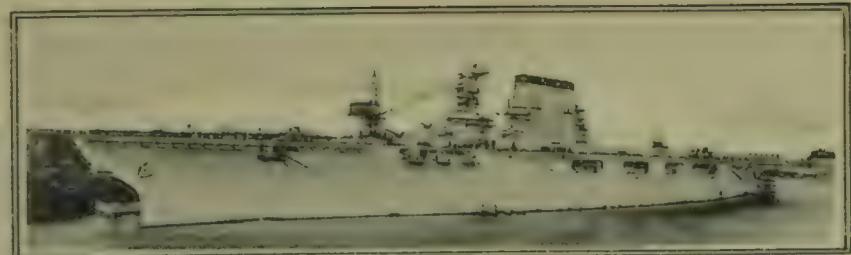
NO. 5 FROM A DRAWING BY OSCAR PARKES, O.B.E., M.B., CH.B., JOINT EDITOR OF "JANE'S FIGHTING SHIPS."



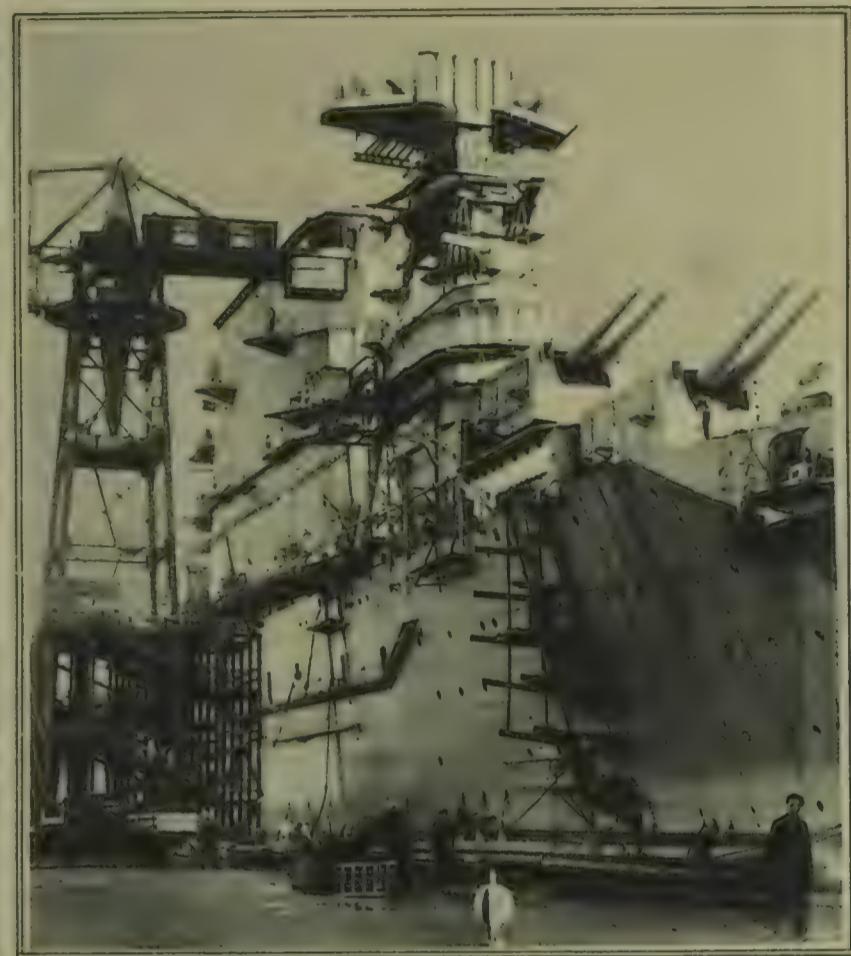
1. SHOWING THE SAFETY NET AND PART OF THE RUNWAY: THE STERN OF THE U.S.S. "LEXINGTON"—THE GREAT NEW AMERICAN AIRCRAFT-CARRIER, A SISTER SHIP TO THE RECENTLY COMPLETED "SARATOGA."



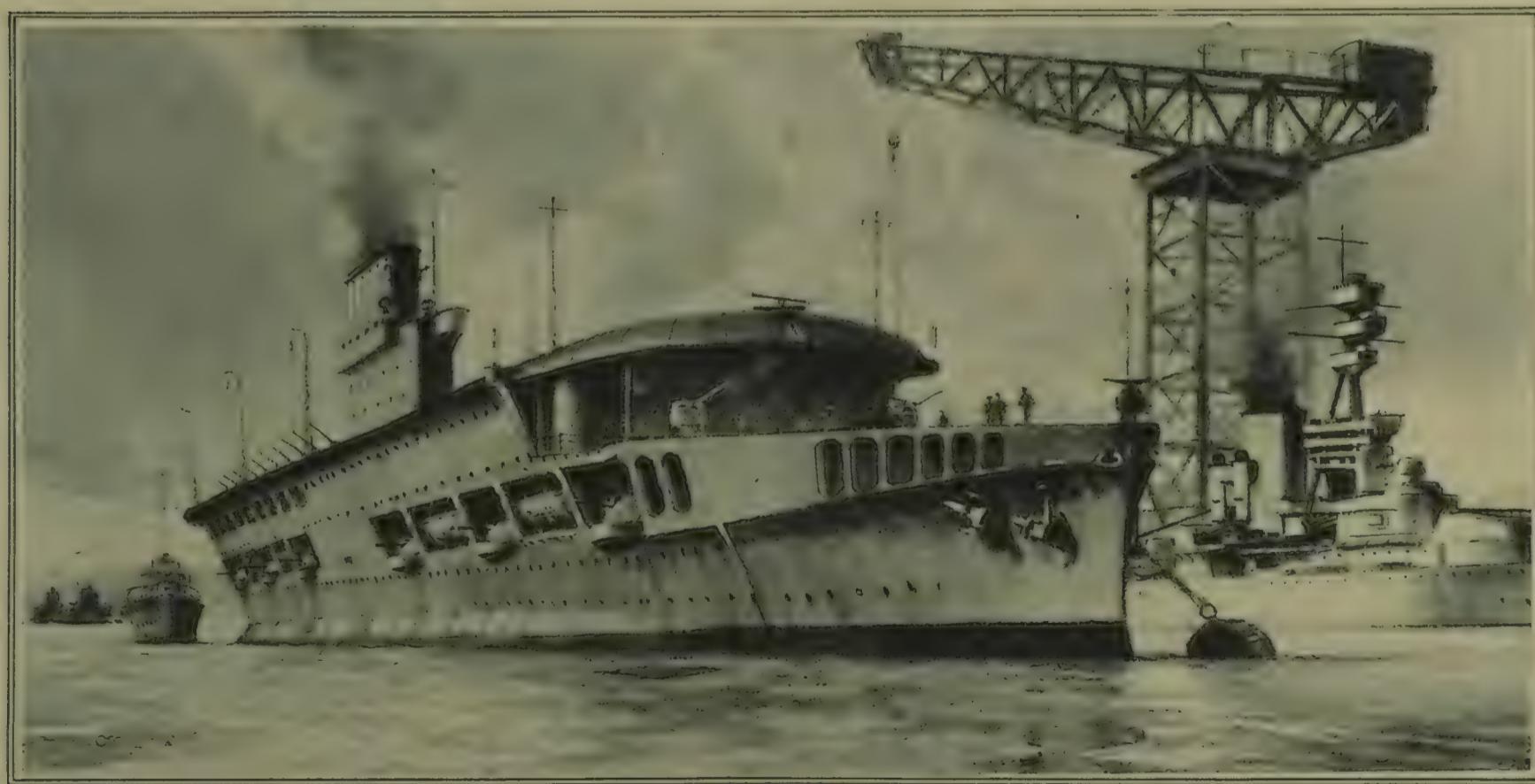
3. THE CURIOUS SMOKE-STACKS OF THE U.S.S. "LEXINGTON": AN ENLARGED VIEW (FROM THE STARBOARD SIDE) OF THE STRUCTURE SEEN FROM THE PORT SIDE IN ILLUSTRATION NO. 2.



2. SHOWING (L. TO R.) THE GUN-TURRETS, CONTROL TOWER, AND SMOKE-STACKS ON THE FURTHER (STARBOARD) SIDE: A PORT SIDE VIEW OF THE "LEXINGTON," LATELY HANDED OVER TO THE U.S. NAVY DEPARTMENT AT THE BOSTON NAVY YARDS.



4. THE LOFTY SUPERSTRUCTURES ALONG THE STARBOARD SIDE OF THE U.S.S. "LEXINGTON": (LEFT TO RIGHT) THE SMOKE-STACKS, THE CONTROL TOWER, AND THE PAIR OF DOUBLE GUN-TURRETS.



S. A NAVAL METAMORPHOSIS: THE NEW BRITISH AIRCRAFT-CARRIER, H.M.S. "COURAGEOUS," AS SHE NOW IS (ON THE LEFT) AND AS SHE WAS (ON THE RIGHT) BEFORE BEING STRIPPED OF HER 15-INCH GUN TURRETS, MASTS, UPPER WORKS, AND FUNNEL, AND FITTED WITH A DOUBLE-DECKED SUPERSTRUCTURE CONTAINING SEAPLANE HANGARS AND REPAIR SHOPS, WITH PORTS HOUSING 4.7-INCH GUNS AND BOATS.

The great aircraft-carrier "Lexington," a sister ship of the "Saratoga," is the latest addition to the United States Navy. In the current issue of "Jane's Fighting Ships" we read: "These two ships were originally authorised in 1916 for construction as battle-cruisers of 35,000 tons. As aircraft-carriers, they show a reduction in displacement of about 8500 tons. The flight deck is 880 ft. long, and from 85 to 90 ft. wide. At the bow is a catapult of a new type capable of launching the heaviest aircraft into the air at flying speed with a travel of 60 ft. The ships are designed to carry 72 planes each, of which 36 will be bombers. The total cost of these ships, with aircraft, will be about 45,000,000 dollars each."

Describing his drawing (No. 5) Dr. Oscar Parkes writes: "The second of Lord Fisher's 'hush-hush' ships, H.M.S. 'Courageous,' is now being completed at Devonport, as an aircraft-carrier. As shown above, she has undergone a complete transformation since 1924. Stripped to the deck of her 15-in. gun turrets, masts, upper works, and funnel, she has been fitted with a great double-decked superstructure containing hangars and repair shops, along the sides of which are ports housing 4.7-in. guns and boats. She displaces 22,700 tons, and will steam at 32 knots. She will carry two flights of fighters, and one flight each of spotting, reconnaissance, and torpedo planes. Her conversion has cost £2,025,800!"

IN THE POWER OF THE TCHEKA: HARDSHIPS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS AT A SOVIET GAOL IN MOSCOW.

DRAWN BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST, BRYAN DE GRINEAU, FROM MATERIAL SUPPLIED BY FERENC RAJNIS, A HUNGARIAN PRISONER OF THE BOLSHEVISTS FOR SEVEN YEARS. (COPYRIGHTED.)



ROUTINE IN THE TCHEKA GAOL: (1) PRISONERS STRIPPED WHILE THEIR CLOTHES ARE
(3) MEAL TIME IN THE GENERAL DETENTION ROOM—HOT WATER, FISH SOUP.

Some grim statements regarding the treatment of political prisoners in Soviet Russia were published recently after an exchange of captives between Russia and Poland. One of the Poles released was Dr. Lipinsky, a medical man, of Tiflis, accused of espionage. To extort a confession, it is reported, he was shut in a dark cellar infested with rats, and his daily ration was half a pound of mouldy bread and some hot water. Later he was transferred to Moscow, and finally placed in the inner prison of the Tcheka on the Lubianka. Nearly two years after his arrest he was called up for examination and sentenced to death, but through intervention the sentence was commuted to exile in a monastery on the White Sea. There were 16,000 prisoners, and the conditions are described as "appalling." The following notes relate to our drawings: "(1) On arrival at the Tcheka prison, the prisoners are herded into an inner ward. Here they are entirely

SEARCHED; (2) PEASANTS IN THE HOSTAGES' WARD AT PRAYER BEFORE AN IKON; AND HARD BREAD; (4) TRIAL BY TCHEKA—A SUSPECT BEFORE A COMMISSAR.

stripped, and their clothes and belongings searched. (2) Chief villagers from districts which have come under the suspicion of the authorities are kept as hostages in a section of the Tcheka prison away from the other political prisoners. They sleep on wire beds, or on straw on the bare floor. These peasants usually manage to conceal a treasured ikon, around which they gather for prayer. (3) The prison ration consists of a ladle of hot water twice a day, half a pint of fish soup, and a small piece of bread. The bread is so hard that the prisoners roast it at their stove, and crumble it into their kettles of hot water to form a kind of coffee. (4) After a certain time, suspects are brought before a Commissar, who questions them, and enters the sentence he considers appropriate on a form. This form is sent to the Chief of the Tcheka, who signs it, and the prisoner is removed to serve the sentence."

BOOKS OF THE DAY.

THESE are rumours of a Victorian revival in certain aesthetic directions, and, though it is not at present very noticeable in literature, I think we may be said to appreciate some Victorian writers more than did the Victorians. It was left to the twentieth century, for example, to put Swinburne on his due pedestal, and bestow the Order of Merit on Thomas Hardy and George Meredith. Hardy, at his death, was called "the last of the Victorians," like others before him, and doubtless others after him. In the Victorian age, however (with "The Dynasts" yet unwritten), he had not won the supremacy he attained under King Edward and King George. If he did not exactly "tread on earth unguess'd at," he preferred to dwell "far from the madding crowd." It was probably due to his retiring habits that no personal references to him occur in several new volumes of reminiscences covering much of the later Victorian period.

Pre-eminent among these books is, of course, "THE LETTERS OF QUEEN VICTORIA." Second Series (Third Volume). A Selection from Her Majesty's Correspondence and Journal between the years 1862 and 1885. Published by authority of His Majesty the King. Edited by George Earle Buckle. Vol. III., 1879-1885. With nine Portraits. (John Murray; 25s.) The first two volumes of the second series appeared in 1926, and it was originally intended then to bring the royal correspondence down to 1885, but "owing to various circumstances" it only reached 1878. The present volume thus completes the second series by covering the next seven years. Explaining the limit of date, the editor says: "This seemed to be the natural break, as it was in the winter of 1885-6 that Mr. Gladstone definitely adopted the policy of Irish Home Rule, and by so doing changed the whole face of national politics; and it was just after 1885 that there emerged, to take a leading part in public affairs during the closing years of the Queen's reign, some statesmen who are happily still with us, notably Lord Rosebery and Lord Balfour."

In this new volume, which, it need hardly be said, takes its place among the "indispensables" of every historical or political library, the personality of the great Queen stands out still clearer and stronger than before, both as a sovereign and as a woman. In her letters she reveals the depth of her domestic affections and the height of her imperial ideals. More than ever are we able to realise the force of her influence on public affairs. Not content to be a figurehead in the ship of State, she took as large a share of the steering as was possible to a constitutional monarch. She made no secret of her political sympathies or antipathies, and here the predominant interest is the contrast between her relations with Disraeli and Gladstone. When the latter was in power, we find her constantly writing to him to condemn his policy, especially after the Phoenix Park murders and the death of Gordon. In foreign and imperial affairs, in Egypt or in Ireland, in South Africa or Afghanistan, she was always for prompt action and the strong hand.

Of the two' rival statesmen, Disraeli showed himself the better courtier, and his letters to the Queen, not altogether free, perhaps, from an element of subtle flattery, make some of the best reading in the book. "For more than forty years," he writes (in 1880) after leaving office, "your Majesty has been acquainted with the secret springs of every important event. . . . There must necessarily have accrued to a sovereign, so placed, such a knowledge of affairs and of human character that the most gifted must profit by an intercourse with your Majesty, and the realm suffer by your Majesty's reserve.

Your Majesty is graciously pleased to ask whether I am alone. I have not seen, I may say, a human being since I returned from Westminster, a month ago; but I have never had a dull moment. Solitude suits me, and so long as I can look at trees and books, I have always agreeable companions."

Some of the Queen's rare allusions to literary matters are to be found in her letters to Disraeli. In 1881 she writes: "I have finished the two first volumes of *Endymion* and been much interested by it. One chapter, when the Ritualistic clergyman discusses the Athanasian Creed with Endymion, is admirable and amused me very much." On finishing the book she writes again: "I trace several characters. Were you not thinking of the Duchess of Manchester in Lady Montfort, and of Mr. Bright in Job Thorberry? But who is it Endymion takes after? How is it that your hero should be a *Whig*? Did you know Carlyle?" This drew a witty reply, with interesting identifications, and a description of a meeting with Carlyle at his own request. "It was a very successful interview," says Disraeli, "and I contemplated cultivating his society. . . . Carlyle, however, was in the hands of my foes, and he behaved so unnecessarily

discourteously . . . that I cared not more to see him. An original and vigorous-minded writer: but not so original as supposed, for he was an ape of Richter, and it's a question whether posterity will accept his barbarian eloquence."

How far Queen Victoria was a novel-reader can hardly be gathered from this book, but one extract from her journal shows that Charlotte Brontë's masterpiece won the royal approval twenty-five years after the author's death. The entry begins: "In the train, 23 Nov., 1880. Finished *Jane Eyre*, which is really a wonderful book, very peculiar in parts, but so powerfully and admirably written, such a fine tone in it, such fine religious feeling." Another literary extract dated "Osborne, 7 Aug., 1883," records a visit from Tennyson. "He is grown very old, his eyesight much impaired, and he is very shaky on his legs. But he was very kind and his conversation was most agreeable. . . . I told him what a comfort *In Memoriam* had always been to me, which seemed to please him; but he said, I could not believe the number of shameful letters of abuse he had received about it. Incredible! When I took leave of him I thanked him for his kindness . . . to which he replied: 'You are so alone on that terrible height. I have only a year or

see Lord Tennyson.

. . . He was brusque in manner and not very civil. He took us into his study, a plainly furnished room. 'Is this where you write your poetry?' I asked stupidly. 'I do not write,' he said gruffly, 'I make poetry.' Snubbed, I retired into myself until just as we were going I heard him say to Mrs. Greville, with whom he was evidently having a kind of altercation: 'Get it over, get it over now, before the pageboy arrives. 'What is it?' I asked, much intrigued. Lord Tennyson answered: 'It's Mrs. Greville's whim, she always wants to kiss me.' He then tendered his cheek, which she solemnly saluted. With the desperate courage born of youth and ignorance, I asked: 'May I not have one, too?' Lord Tennyson bent down from his height, looked at me benignly, and said: 'Yes.' The bear is proverbial for a sweet tooth.

No place or date is assigned to this adventure in literary big-game hunting, or to another in chase of George Eliot, who was "stiff and cold" and seems to have destroyed the illusions of an ardent worshipper. This disregard of chronology is typical of the book, which rambles, very pleasantly, through memories of varied experiences in sport and travel, music, acting, and writing.

At many points Lady Violet's book makes contact with a kindred work of aristocratic provenance—"FROM A GREAT-GRANDMOTHER'S ARMCHAIR." By Helen, Countess Dowager of Radnor. Illustrated (Marshall Press; 21s.). Sport and music especially are interests in common between the two, as well as several acquaintances, such as Disraeli, Whyte Melville, and Sullivan. Lady Radnor, who is more methodical in the matter of dates and continuity, has written a delightful chronicle of a long and interesting life, with some intimate glimpses of Queen Victoria, at Windsor and in Scotland. The book is admirably illustrated.

I have only room to touch very briefly on other personal records which overlap from the last century into the present, and, in their earlier stages, combine to form a social background to the royal annals. It may be said of them all that they are rich in anecdote, and populous with celebrities. From the Peerage, again, emanates a book that is perhaps unique as coming from that quarter—"MY GAMBLE WITH LIFE." By the Earl of Rosslyn. Illustrated (Cassell; 25s.). It is a frank and unembittered self-revelation, not devoid of self-criticism, and all the more attractive for its lack of conventionality.

The House of Commons, of whose encroachments on the executive Queen Victoria complained in her letters to Disraeli, is the centre of interest in a book of great value and charm—"SOME PARLIAMENTARY RECOLLECTIONS." By Sir James Agg-Gardner, P.C. Illustrated (Burrow and Co.; 25s. Limited and Autographed *de luxe* Edition, £2 2s.). Sir James, who has so long represented Cheltenham (his birthplace), is now the oldest M.P. (in age), was in the "Disraeli" Parliament of 1874, and had been a candidate six years earlier. He thus has lively memories of the old hustings days, and he describes the changes he has seen, and the people he has met, in fifty years of political life. Particularly interesting are two chapters on Parliamentary oratory and humour and that on "gastronomy, costume, manners, and customs." Among the memorable scenes he recalls was the ejection of the Prince of Wales (King Edward) and a party of friends from the Peers' Gallery when a mischief-making Member had called out, "Mr. Speaker, I espied strangers."

Further echoes of the longest reign, proceeding from "the Fourth Estate," are audible in "VICTORIANS, EDWARDIANS, AND GEORGIANS." The Impressions of a Veteran Journalist Extending over Forty Years. By John Boon. Two vols. Illustrated (Hutchinson; 34s.). As the author begins his reminiscences only one year before the Queen's letters leave off, direct links between the two works are few, the chief event recorded in both being the fall of Khartum, but many political personages reappear in Mr. Boon's pages. "He has come into contact," we read, "with most of the famous men of his day, and has had personal converse with three Emperors and at least half a score of Kings." Written as it is from a wide knowledge of affairs and personalities, with all the fluent force of a practised pen, and illustrated with excellent portraits, his book is quite the best of its kind that I have seen for many a day. The elder generation of our readers will especially appreciate his kindly tribute to the late Mr. Melton Prior, one of the last of the old-time war-artists.

C. E. B.



REVEALED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN OUR NEXT NUMBER—THE MYSTERY OF THE CANOPIC SHRINE IN THE TOMB OF TUTANKHAMEN: THE GODDESS-GUARDED SHRINE.

The wonderful contents of the Canopic Shrine—perhaps the most artistic of all the "finds"—in the Innermost Recess, or Store Chamber, leading out of the sepulchre in the Tomb of Tutankhamen, will be illustrated in our next issue (that of February 4) by means of a most remarkable series of photographs. The above photograph shows the exterior, with two of the four beautiful statuettes of the tutelary goddesses (Isis, Nephthys, Neith, and Selkit). The shrine was the receptacle for the four canopic jars containing the King's viscera. It is magnificently carved and gilded, and is surmounted by two tiers of uraei, or royal cobras. Our readers interested in the subject are advised to order their copies of our next number in advance.

Photograph by Mr. Harry Burton, of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.
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two more to live, but I am happy to do anything for you I can."

Tennyson as a lion in his own den was (if I may perpetrate a triple "bull") something of a "bear." A new instance occurs in "VIGNETTES OF MEMORY." By Lady Violet Greville. With Frontispiece and seventeen other Illustrations (Hutchinson; 18s.). The author is a daughter of the fourth Duke of Montrose, and sister of the late Duke. "Mrs. Greville," she writes, "once took me to

PERSONALITIES OF THE WEEK: PEOPLE IN THE PUBLIC EYE



CANON G. E. NEWSOM.
New Master of Selwyn College, Cambridge. Vicar of Newcastle-on-Tyne. Born in 1871. For several years closely associated with King's College, London.



ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET SIR JOHN DE ROBECK, BT.
(Born, July 10, 1862; Died, January 20.) The commander of the Allied naval forces in the Dardanelles and at Gallipoli in 1915-1916. In December 1916 was appointed Vice-Admiral Commanding the Second Battle Squadron of the Grand Fleet, a position he held until the dispersal of that Fleet in April 1919.



THE RT. HON. SIR LESLIE SCOTT, P.C.
The distinguished K.C. "Briefed"—it is said for £53,000—to go to India to advise the Indian States and Princes as to their positions with regard to the Statutory Commission.



PROFESSOR J. A. FLEMING, F.R.S.
Awarded the Faraday Medal. The famous electrical engineer who invented the first wireless valve, and thus revolutionised wireless telephony.



MR. M. S. SPENCER-SMITH.
A Director of the Bank of England since 1920. Killed in a motor accident near Cambridge. Aged forty-six. Had a distinguished war career; then returned to the City.



THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON.
(Born, December 27, 1845; Died, January 18.) Best known to the general public as the owner of Goodwood. Called "the best landlord of his day."



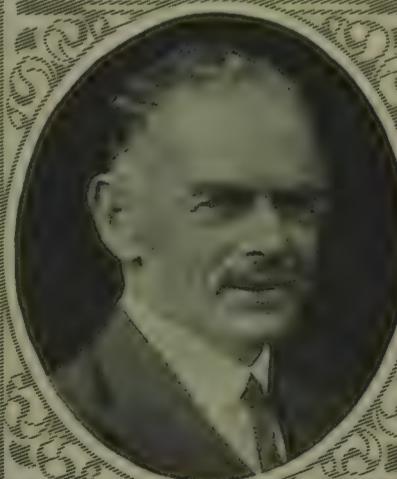
GENERAL WILHELM GROENER.
The new German Minister of Defence, in succession to Herr Gessler. On October 29, 1918, succeeded Ludendorff as Quartermaster-General. A Democrat.



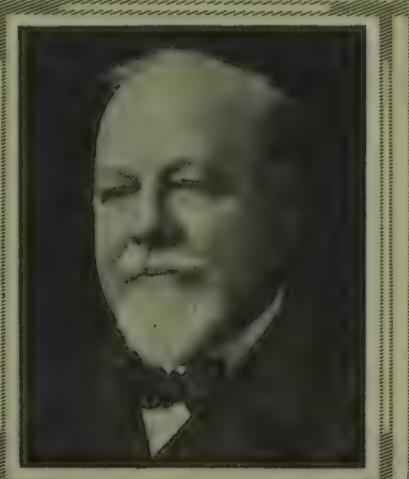
SIR DYCE DUCKWORTH.
(Born, November 24, 1849; died, January 20.) Eminent consulting physician. A specialist, more particularly, on gout and rheumatic affections of the joints.



MAJOR-GENERAL G. W. GOETHALS.
Took over the construction of the Panama Canal in 1907, and was the first Civil Governor of the Canal Zone. Did excellent work during the war.



THE NEW DUKE OF RICHMOND.
Formerly known as the Earl of March. Served with distinction in South Africa and during the Great War, in the earlier part of which he commanded the Guards.



ADMIRAL SIR EDMOND SLADE.
(Born, March 20, 1859; died, January 20.) Organised the Navy's oil supplies, and was appointed by the Admiralty a Director of the Anglo-Persian Oil Co.

Canon Newsom will succeed the Rev. Dr. J. O. F. Murray at Michaelmas. At King's College, London, he held the positions of Vice-Principal, Warden of the Hostel, and Professor of Pastoral Theology. He was appointed Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of Newcastle in 1919.—It was reported recently that Sir Leslie Scott had sailed for India to advise the Indian States and Princes as to their legal and constitutional positions with regard to the Statutory Commission, and as to the evidence which they will lay before it. His fee is reported to be £53,000, with a "refresher" of £200 a day, and he is likely to be away for three months.

He was Solicitor-General in 1922.—The late Duke of Richmond served in South Africa, 1901-1902. Queen Victoria conferred a new Dukedom of Gordon on his father, the Duke of Richmond, as his grandmother, Lady Charlotte Gordon, was the elder sister of the last Duke of Gordon in the Peerage of Scotland.—Lieut.-Gen. Groener was responsible for the transport on the German mobilisation in 1914.—Admiral Slade rose to be Commander-in-Chief in the East Indies; commanded the Royal Naval War College; and was Director of Naval Intelligence. His services in connection with oil fuel are mentioned above.

ÆSCULAPIUS BUYS AN AEROPLANE.

MEDICAL AIR SERVICES IN WAR AND PEACE.

If the common possession of wings makes it legitimate to liken the aeroplane to an angel, it is as a destroying angel rather than a ministering angel that it will ordinarily be conceived. But since time is so often the great enemy with which medical science has to contend in undeveloped and sparsely populated regions, the great speed and freedom of movement of the aeroplane would seem to assure it of a field of usefulness in which its service to the art of healing may help to counterbalance its disservice to humanity through the new terrors with which it has endowed the art of war. The success of a few isolated experiments in civil and military medical air transport has caused many colonial administrations to investigate the possibility of applying aircraft to their own problems of combating disease and accident, and the future is certain to see the rapid multiplication of such local medical air services.

No people has a greater interest in this subject than the British, with their widely-scattered Imperial outposts; and, while the inauguration of regular commercial air services is worthy of support on its own merits, the value of specialised and flexible systems of air transport for urgent medical duties is so great that their inception might well be judged to take precedence over the more ambitious regular air-transport projects.

An interesting example of what may be achieved is the scheme which has been proposed by Mr. John Flynn, of the Australian Inland Mission, and Mr. Edward Fisk, of the Queensland and Northern Territory Aerial Services, Ltd. According to this scheme, the Mission would equip six of its eleven country hospitals with aerodromes, aeroplanes, pilots, and wireless facilities, and would establish reserve petrol stores at convenient points throughout the States. With the aid of this organisation, each of the doctors stationed at the hospitals would be able to attend to the medical needs of the population in an area of 400 square miles, while critical cases needing immediate operation of an intricate character would be transported by air to the nearest hospital. If the project proves successful it is hoped to extend the system until it covers every outlying area in Australia.

The recently-established British Guiana Air Transport Company owes its formation to the pioneer work undertaken by a firm which owns balata estates in that colony, and which purchased a Fairey ambulance seaplane chiefly for the conveyance of fever-stricken members of its staff from up-country depots to headquarters in Georgetown. Many of these depots were situated 300 miles from Georgetown, the intervening country being almost roadless jungle. The only means of transport that existed was the river, and the innumerable rapids made navigation difficult and necessitated frequent portages. The journey from Georgetown to Apoteri and back, a distance of 540 miles, thus occupied four or five weeks.

At the end of 1924, a specially adapted Fairey III. seaplane, of the type having two main and one tail float, was put into service. Designed to carry one stretcher patient and an attendant, the roof of the cabin was hinged, and a davit provided by means of which the loaded stretcher could be hoisted up and lowered into position. As a result of the machine's introduction, the journey that formerly entailed a month's or five weeks' travelling, under the most distressing conditions for the patient, can now be

made in from 5½ to 6½ hours. As a precaution against disaster following a forced landing in the jungle, the machine is equipped with wireless facilities for communicating with the Government transmitting stations.

MILITARY AIR AMBULANCES.

In military operations against half-savage tribesmen, the transport of sick and wounded from the areas of hostilities to the field or base hospitals is frequently attended not only by difficulty and the most acute discomfort to the patients, but is often so slow, owing to the distance and the nature of the country, that the cases most urgently in need of treatment may die on the way, or arrive in a condition in which operation is hopeless.

In such cases the aeroplane is often capable of

for the transport of wounded during the Balkan wars.

The first aeroplane to be specially constructed for—or rather, adapted to—ambulance duties was that designed in 1917 by Major Chassaing, of the French Army medical service, and it was employed in evacuating the wounded from the front line at Moulin Laffaux to a camp some forty miles in the rear. In 1919 Dr. Tilmant and an aeronautical engineer named Nemirovski designed a machine of the type which has now come to be known as the *aérochir*, equipped with medical appliances of the lightest possible character, which was adapted for the conveyance of medical officers, drugs, and supplies. Accommodation could also be provided for the conveyance of patients, but the machine was primarily intended

to take skilled and equipped medical assistance to wounded in inaccessible places, rather than to bring the wounded to the hospital. For this reason the *aérochir* has been extensively used by the French Colonial Ministry. In the French campaigns in Syria and Morocco both types of ambulances were freely used, over a thousand wounded being transported in Morocco during 1923, more than a third of whom would almost certainly not have survived evacuation by any available form of ground transport. At first, the air ambulances were simply Bréguet day bombing and reconnaissance machines trans-

formed for first-aid purposes by the addition of means for accommodating stretchers in the fuselage; but the type now in use has been specially evolved for its work by the Bréguet organisation and has attained a high degree of comfort. One of the newest types will accommodate three stretcher cases, accompanied by an orderly or sitting case. The enclosed cabin is electrically heated, and well ventilated. The inner walls are lacquered to facilitate cleaning and disinfecting, and a sufficient stock of medical supplies is carried.

British experiments with the aerial ambulance have taken a different form. Seeing in the aeroplane a means of giving mobility to the forces engaged in

guarding the frontiers of Britain's Near Eastern dependencies, the military authorities abandoned their early experiments with specialised ambulance aircraft and have concentrated on the construction of machines of large and powerful types which, while useful for evacuating sick and wounded, are used primarily as troop-transports on active service.

One of the earliest British ambulance aircraft was the twin-engined *Vernon*, produced in 1920 by the Vickers Works. This machine carried four stretcher cases, and had several novel features. Departing from the French practice, the stretcher and its inmate were passed through a hinged trap in the nose of the machine, which communicated with the cabin by a tunnel below the pilot's cockpit. Triplex glass windows were fitted along two-thirds of the length of the hull to safeguard the patients from one of the dangers of a possible crash; each stretcher was provided with its own oxygen supply; and the permanent fittings included an electric kettle, wash-basin, body-warmers, and medical utensils. The cabin could be lighted electrically, and was ventilated by a fan.

Unfortunately, this machine crashed, in 1922, before having been used in service, but two new machines, of a similar type, were constructed, and embodied improvements suggested by the tests to which the first *Vernon* had been subjected. In these machines the two lower stretchers were replaced

(Continued on opposite page)



USED IN BRITISH GUIANA, WHERE UP-COUNTRY PATIENTS CAN BE CARRIED BY AIR IN FIVE HOURS ON A JOURNEY THAT FORMERLY TOOK FOUR OR FIVE WEEKS: A FAIREY III D SEAPLANE SPECIALLY ADAPTED FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES.

rendering invaluable services if the terrain is not so broken that landing-grounds cannot be provided—a condition that the French air forces frequently discovered to exist in the course of their Syrian operations. If, however, this obstacle can be surmounted, the aeroplane is incomparably superior to the means hitherto adopted for the evacuation of sick and wounded. Not only is the journey time shortened by the great speed and direct route of the aircraft, but the patients are subjected to the least possible discomfort and jolting. A discomfort peculiar to air transport—air sickness—has often to be accepted as a necessary minor inconvenience, but



SHOWING THE METHOD OF LOWERING A STRETCHER AND ITS OCCUPANT INTO THE CABIN, BY MEANS OF A DAVIT: THE FAIREY III.D SEAPLANE USED IN BRITISH GUIANA.

even this disadvantage can sometimes be obviated, for the less urgent cases, by arranging that the evacuation shall take place during the early morning or late afternoon, when "bumps" are less frequent than in the heat of the day.

As long ago as the nineties of the last century a Dutch military surgeon, General de Mooy, was speculating on the possibility of using flying machines and dirigible and captive balloons for the succour of the wounded, and the same idea was inspiring Professor Charles Richez, of the Academy of Medicine, in his researches into the problem of flight. There is at least one instance of the emergency use of aircraft



OF A TYPE USED DURING MILITARY OPERATIONS IN THE NEAR EAST: A VICKERS "VIMY" TROOP-CARRYING AEROPLANE USED AS AN AMBULANCE, SHOWING THE RED CROSS, SIDE ENTRANCE, AND CABIN WINDOWS.

Continued from opposite page. 1.
by ten collapsible deck-chairs for sitting patients, the two forward windows hinged to swing outwards to catch the propeller's slipstream (thus enabling the ventilating fan to be dispensed with), the oxygen supply apparatus was simplified, and the wash-basin eliminated. The triplex-glass windows, found to occupy too much space and to be too heavy, were replaced by gauze, which, however, proved draughty and unsatisfactory. The first of the two machines crashed in Palestine in 1922, [Continued in Box 2.]

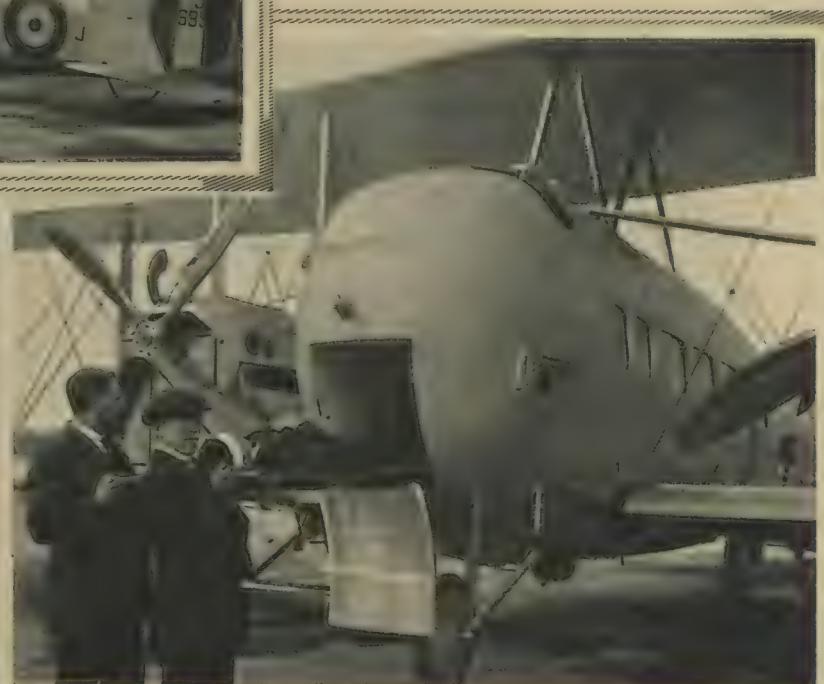


WITH A STRETCHER PATIENT IN POSITION AND ANOTHER STRETCHER ABOVE: THE INTERIOR OF THE SPACIOUS CABIN OF A VICKERS "VIMY" AEROPLANE EQUIPPED FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES.

2.
but was repaired. The second, after having been flown to Baghdad in 1923, and used for the evacuation of a few sick cases at Kirkuk, met the same fate. The first machine, after repair, was used for a weekly evacuation of sick from Kirkuk to Baghdad, with complete satisfaction. The *Vernon* class of troop-carrying aeroplanes, and the *Vimy* class later produced by the Vickers Works, have now to give precedence to the *Victoria*. [Continued in Box 3.]

Both in peace and war the aeroplane is of great value for purposes of medical transport, as described in the article given on the opposite page and continued above. By means of aircraft, in countries where scattered populations live at great distances from towns, doctors can reach a patient, or patients can be conveyed to hospital, with a rapidity otherwise impossible, and thus many lives can be saved. As the writer mentions, air services of this kind are projected

THE AEROPLANE AS "MINISTERING ANGEL": BRITISH AIR AMBULANCES; OR TROOP-CARRIERS USED ALSO FOR MEDICAL TRANSPORT.



SHOWING A STRETCHER CASE BEING PASSED THROUGH A TUNNEL IN THE NOSE OF THE MACHINE INTO THE CABIN: A VICKERS "VIMY" TROOP-CARRYING AEROPLANE, AS USED FOR AMBULANCE PURPOSES IN IRAQ.

While primarily designed to confer the highest degree of mobility on small bodies of troops in occupation of extensive hostile territories, the *Victoria*s have already proved their value for the swift conveyance of sick.

This duality of function is, no doubt, the best solution of the problem with which Britain is confronted in the Middle East; but, in the event of war with a Power which is pledged to respect the immunity of the Red Cross, specialised air ambulances would certainly be necessary if juristic conflicts are to be avoided.



FITTED WITH COLLAPSIBLE CHAIRS EITHER FOR TROOPS OR FOR "SITTING CASES" WHEN USED AS AN AMBULANCE: THE CABIN OF A NEW VICKERS "VICTORIA" TROOP-CARRYING AEROPLANE.

in Australia and have already been established in British Guiana... In military operations also air ambulances afford similar advantages, by carrying the wounded quickly to hospital, or bringing doctors to the scene of action. Such ambulances, it may be recalled, have recently been used by the United States Marines in Nicaragua. We illustrate here some types of British troop-carrying aeroplanes, such as have been employed for ambulance purposes in Iraq.

FROM THE WORLD'S SCRAP-BOOK: NEW ITEMS OF TOPICAL INTEREST.



THE "LOUD SPEAKER" ENTERS POLITICS: RIVAL ELECTION "TANKS"—CONSERVATIVE (LEFT) AND LIBERAL—IN A VILLAGE NEAR SITTINGBOURNE DURING THE FAVERSHAM BYE-ELECTION.



MUSSOLINI AS A "GULLIVER" AMONG "LILLIPUTIANS": SENTRIES, A CIVILIAN, AND A MACHINE-GUN LOOKING VERY DIMINUTIVE BEFORE A COLOSSAL PHOTOGRAPH OF THE DUCE, SOME 30 FT. SQUARE.



A LIFE-BUOY ON A LAMP-POST: A PRECAUTION IN WESTMINSTER AFTER A RECENT WARNING OF POSSIBLE FURTHER FLOODS.



THE DRAINING OF LAKE NEMI TO RECOVER CALIGULA'S SUNKEN GALLEYS: AN ANCIENT ROMAN AQUEDUCT TO BE USED IN TRANSFERRING THE WATER TO LAKE ALBANO.



OBsolete AMERICAN WAR AEROPLANES CEREMONIALLY BURNT AT PHILADELPHIA: THE MACHINES STACKED READY FOR HONOURABLE "CREMATION."



TELEPHONING FROM THE TOP OF A NEW 85-FT. FIRE-ESCAPE: A LEICESTER FIREMAN EFFECTING A TEST RESCUE.



A NEW "ISM" IN ART—THE FIRST EXHIBITION OF THE EMOTIONIST GROUP: "DRAMA," BY K. HASELDEN.



EMOTIONIST ART EXHIBITED AT THE HURRICANE LAMP GALLERY IN CHELSEA: "DYNAMIC," BY R. O. DUNLOP.

During the recent bye-election in the Faversham Division, the Liberal candidate, Mr. J. Freeman Dunn, introduced a type of motor van, nicknamed an election "tank," fitted with wireless, loud-speakers, and picture screens. The Conservative candidate, Mr. A. Maitland, followed suit with two amplifiers on wheels. Each of his cars contained a seven-valve amplifier and a microphone, with two powerful loud-speakers above. — Signor Mussolini received as a New Year gift an enormous photograph of himself, measuring 30 square feet, presented by a Fascist from Parma. It was placed on view in an exhibition of the Fascist Militia in Rome. — As a precaution against renewed floods, against which the L.C.C. lately issued a warning, life-buoys were hung on the arms of lamp-posts in West-

minster. — Lake Nemi, in the Alban Hills near Rome, is shortly to be drained to recover the two sunken pleasure-barges of the Emperor Caligula. The water will be transferred to Lake Albano through an ancient Roman tunnel. Five firms have agreed to do the work gratis "as homage to Mussolini." He recently signed the contract. — Seven obsolete aeroplanes of the Pennsylvania National Guard Flying Squadron, built for war purposes, were lately burnt ceremonially at the Philadelphia air port. — The Leicester Fire Brigade has just installed a remarkable new engine including an 85-ft. fire-escape, fitted with an amplified telephone from the top to the ground. — The first exhibition of Emotionist art was recently opened at the Hurricane Lamp Gallery in Chelsea.

WESTERN WAYS OF AN EASTERN RULER: THE KING OF AFGHANISTAN.



LAWN TENNIS AT THE SUMMER PALACE AT PAGHMAN: THE KING OF AFGHANISTAN (IN FOREGROUND), WHO IS DUE TO ARRIVE IN ENGLAND IN MARCH.



IN THE BILLIARDS-ROOM AT THE ROYAL PALACE: THE KING OF AFGHANISTAN (LEFT); HIS CHAMBERLAIN (NEXT); AND AN OFFICER OF THE COURT.



AT A SHOOTING PARTY: KING AMANULLAH (LEFT); WITH HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW AND A YOUNGER BROTHER (RIGHT).

Thanks to the publicity given to his Majesty the King of Afghanistan's present journey, it has become general knowledge that King Amanullah is very European in his personal tastes and in his methods as a ruler. As we have noted before, his Majesty said, at a farewell gathering at Kabul that Afghanistan had said good-bye for ever to her stationary position, and had joined the social and living nations of the day. Already he had reformed the internal state of the country, and now he wished to acquaint himself with the present mode of living in Europe. Certain customs of that continent were being adopted in Afghanistan, and he

IN THE GRAND STAND AT A RACE-MEETING AT PAGHMAN: KING AMANULLAH (CENTRE); HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY, MR. ZYA HOUMAYOUN (LEFT); AND THE BRITISH MINISTER.

wished further to introduce those which he thought desirable. As an additional note, it may be added that the King is travelling in Western dress and his Queen in Western frocks. The royal pair are expected in this country about the second week in March, for a State visit lasting three days. After this, it is believed, their Majesties will remain here for some ten days incognito, when the King will see certain industrial centres and inspect workshops and factories. His Majesty was born on June 1, 1892, third son of Amir Habibullah Khan, and he succeeded on February 20, 1919.

The World of the Theatre.

By J. T. GREIN.

ABOUT ENGLISH ACTING.—POLAND AND THE ENGLISH STAGE.

THE English actor is second to none in the world: I have said it before, and, reviewing the work done on our stage in 1927, I venture to say it again with emphasis. The English actress, on the average, is not yet his peer; it is mainly a question of temperament and—most important—of opportunity; but her standard is rising fast. The older generation holds its own—I could reel off a dozen names, from Lilian Braithwaite to Ellis Jeffreys. The younger is full of revelation and promise, and among them the most shining light of the year is the daughter of the veteran Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson—Jean—who gave us a Juliet of exquisite tenderness, and in many other parts displayed a sensitive ceriness rare in our matter-of-fact age. If she remains unspoilt, if she retains her strange bloom of youth akin to the day-dreams of Alice in Wonderland, she may become a great actress, may be the tragédienne of our time. The elements are all there; the future depends on the transition from girlhood to womanhood.

The reason that our actresses rank second is not entirely due to lesser endowment by nature; it is rather to be found in the chariness of our managers to risk experiments, and in their adherence to type. As we have far fewer men-actors than actresses, the former are often chosen to create parts which, on the surface, do not harmonise with their appearance and with their previous work. They, to their advantage, are frequently "cast" for characters beyond their ordinary line, just because the desired favourite is not available. The result is that, time after time, we discover them in a new light, and that, tragedy excepted, we possess all the material for any conceivable part. This might be the case of the women too, if sufficient attention were given to selection. But, as women on our stage, as in every other walk of life, are in the overwhelming majority, the manager and the producer find it convenient to choose them according to type, and so it happens that an artist obtains a leading part simply because pictorially, if I may put it so, she suits the personality of the character.

Every day we hear the plaint of disappointed actresses: "I did not get the part because he [the manager or producer] said that I was not 'the type.' Yet I know I could do it if they would only let me try." There is much more in this than meets the eye: it condemns a system—or rather, a want of one—and it is the direct cause why, on the actresses' side, so much mediocrity remains *en évidence*, whereas so many well-endowed actresses are either unemployed or burying their talents in the provinces, unless by a miracle somebody with influence sees their possibilities and drags them from obscurity. And even then there is no certainty of permanency. As I write, there are at least a dozen actresses in London who in certain plays have "made a hit," and, when the run was over, receded into oblivion or inactivity, because, though the critics and the public had become acquainted with their "discovery," the managers had not. It is a strange state of affairs, and one that will continue to exist so long as the profession, unlike most of the others, remains but partially organised.

Reverting to the acting of the year, the principal feature of its excellence is not so much the work of the stars, the front rank generally, as the achievement of *ensembles* and minor parts. Until a few years ago a perfect *ensemble* was the exception—the leaders stood out in blinding glamour; now it is the rule. That in some respects our acting may yet profit by the methods

of others, no one could gainsay; from America we could gradually accept the "assembling" of masses in perfect drill; from France, the *finesse* of delivery in dialogue of length; from Germany, the metronomic rhythm in poetic drama. But this is merely the "finishing touch." On the whole, our actors of to-day have less to acquire from others than others have to learn from them.

Yet the new Republic of Poland has an official representative of "the Polish theatres" in London. He is a young literary man whose name is Dr. Floryan Sobieniowski, and his mission is to acquaint the State theatres of Warsaw and other Polish cities with the movement of our drama. For fourteen years he has lived in England; he has mastered the language to perfection. He eagerly seeks the acquisition of the rights of production of our noteworthy plays, and—every play he secures he translates single-handed. He has acquainted his fellow-countrymen with the work of Synge and Drinkwater; he is the authorised translator of Shaw, and, so far—it seems almost incredible—he has translated fourteen of his plays, and many of them have become permanently included in the repertoires of the State theatres. Lately, he has been charged to translate some of the works of Shakespeare, and as I write he is putting the finishing touch to a version of "Antony and Cleopatra." Of course, it is Mr. Sobieniowski's ambition to transplant the drama of his native land to the English stage, and he entertains some hope that one of the plays he has translated from the Polish—"The Wedding," "the most original drama Poland has ever produced," as he calls it—will, ere long, be performed in London. Meanwhile, he has arranged with a leading firm

of publishers for the issue of the play in book form, so that the student will have an opportunity to become acquainted with a somewhat novel form of construction, reminiscent of the episodic method of Le Normand.

Mr. Sobieniowski is an ardent partisan of the idea that there should be an International Festival in London in 1929, and on this subject he writes—

I have read with great interest the paragraph in the *Times* (for Dec. 12, 1927) on your address on "A World Festival of the Theatre," and I would have communicated with you before now but for the fact that I had read the said paragraph on my way to Paris, where I had an important meeting with the Polish Council whose task is to promote the knowledge of Polish Art and Literature abroad. In the course of the discussion with that body, who have made me their representative in England, I not only submitted to them your scheme, but, being personally (and professionally) interested in it, I have worked it out—as far as Poland is concerned—and it has been accepted and approved enthusiastically, so that a favourable report was already sent to Warsaw, to the Government under whose direct auspices the said Council is working.

He adds—

Should Poland be among the six chosen nations which will be allowed to give two performances (a matinée and an evening performance), the Polish company would produce "St. Joan," as the greatest after-the-war success on the world stage; it has been acted in Poland in Warsaw, Lodz, Lwow, and Cracow.

So Poland is the first country to take up the idea officially and in the right spirit—namely, that the Festival should be furthered not merely by private enterprise, but under the auspices of the respective Governments. As I mentioned before, the Flemish Municipal Theatre of Antwerp has already given its adhesion on principle. No doubt, spurred by the example of Poland, other countries will follow suit when anon they will be approached under the auspices of leading authors, managers, and actors, who are to foregather, ere long, to mould the idea into concrete form. The spade-work is well in hand; the rest depends on international co-operation in the spirit of *entente cordiale* and a liberal hand.



STRINDBERG'S "THE DANCE OF DEATH," AT THE APOLLO THEATRE: MISS MIRIAM LEWES AS ALICE, MR. ROBERT LORAIN AS EDGAR, AND MR. EDMUND GWENN AS CURT.

We have something to learn from the small nations. Is there, I wonder, any Englishman abroad who makes it his business to work for the interests of our theatre under the wings of official protection? I have never heard of such an office, and, if I were living in a foreign country, I would scarcely apply to our Embassies or Consulates for enlightenment as to our drama, whatever other information may be acquired "on application."



"HAVE YOU HEARD THIS ONE?" MR. GEORGE ROBEY TELLS A STORY TO MISS MARIE BLANCHE IN THE PICCADILLY CIRCUS FLOWER-GIRLS SCENE OF "BITS AND PIECES," AT THE PRINCES THEATRE.

Mr. George Robey, the famous comedian, is drawing large houses to the Princes Theatre, London, where he is presenting his popular entertainment, "Bits and Pieces." He is most ably "backed" by his leading-lady, Miss Marie Blanche, and by a versatile company. "Bits and Pieces," it will be recalled, has also met with much approval on tour, and was an outstanding success when Mr. Robey took it to South Africa.



Painted by W. Donald Sudler.

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"A LOVING TOAST."

Here's to the glory of friendship! How great the
privilege of pledging another all that is worth while
with a ring of sincerity as true as the merits of —

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THE EARLY DAYS OF ELECTRICITY IN ENGLAND.

VI.—ELECTRIC COOKING.

THE popular notion of perfection in cooking always includes a touch of elaboration, of extravagance, of occult skill. We picture a white-robed *chef* before whose genius crowned heads are bowed in homage; we see him presiding, with a corps of acolytes, over strange ceremonies which transform fish, flesh, and fowl into the joyous nourishment of gods. And always our vision of an ideal banquet includes a long procession of dishes, forming a kind of symphony of taste performed by a full orchestra. Nevertheless, we know that this complicated artificiality is of no use for human nature's daily food.

A recent author has declared that the finest dish he ever tasted was a steak fried on a shovel over a road-mender's fire. Allowing for the degree of exaggeration in which authors are licensed to indulge, such tributes embody a sound truth. Good cooking and simplicity may readily go hand in hand. The majority of folk eat simple dishes because their resources are not equal to continuous elaboration; and, among the minority who can afford to make life a perpetual banquet, most keep a simple table because they prefer it. If we look back over the evolution of cooking, we see that for centuries until quite recent times there was a big element of hard labour and uncertainty about the source of heat, and still more its application to the food. The ancient wood fire, laid on the open hearth, required almost as much cleverness in its manipulation as the most intricate dish, and the accounts of gargantuan feasts prepared with its aid fill us with a lively sense of the endurance and skill required to satisfy the *gourmets* of old.

Even in modern times the coal range was essentially a machine which called for skilled supervision. So much depended upon the quality of the fuel, upon the stoking, upon whether the wind was in the east or the west, upon the manipulation of dampers, and upon other variable factors, that we need not marvel at the domestic tragedies which took their rise in a distracted kitchen. Cooking is really an exact science; it demands that every dish shall be subjected to certain degrees of heat for certain periods. But how could this accuracy be secured when the cook's best method of testing the temperature of an oven was to use her hand as a thermometer? The old adage that "God made food, and the Devil sends cooks" is less a reflection on human nature than a criticism of the imperfect apparatus with which cooks were expected, every day and in every way, to secure perfection.

The distinguishing feature of electric cooking is that it does not involve the consumption of fuel. The heat is not derived from a flame which requires not only a flue to carry away the products of combustion (and a large portion of the heat at the same time), but also a constant supply of oxygen, which means a stream of cold air. The electric heating element is simply a resistance wire, which, when electricity flows through it, becomes hot. By altering the thickness of the wire, or the pressure of the electric current, we can change the degree of heat given out by the element. As the pressure on our public electricity supply systems is constant (within narrow limits), this means that in an electric cooker the same element will always give the same results. The uncertainty which once was the bane of a cook's existence is replaced by certainty. Chance is eliminated, and cooking becomes *exact*.

ELECTRICITY IN DAILY LIFE.

By "PROTONIUS."

Moreover, resistance wires may be wound in any desired form and placed in any desired position. An electric oven, therefore, may be provided with top heat, bottom heat, and side heat; and any one or all of these may be employed as required by a simple manipulation

of switches. Each element, again, may be arranged to give several degrees of heat at the turn of a switch, the usual thing being three degrees—"full," "medium," and "low." Thus we get flexibility as well as pre-

accuracy and without even opening the oven door. Electric heat being pure heat, no question arises of the flavour of dishes being affected by fumes of any sort. An electric oven may be totally enclosed, the walls being "lagged" with "insulating" material to retain the heat and thus enhance the economy which comes from having no flue or vent. The only opening an electric oven requires is a small grating to enable excess steam to escape. When, as is done in many cases, a glass front is fitted to the oven, it is possible to keep an eye on the progress of the cooking without opening the door and allowing the temperature to fall.

With such an equipment, cooking becomes a reliable process reduced to its simplest terms. Take, for example, the case of a roast joint. In order to secure an ideal result, the joint should be placed in an oven hot enough to sear the outside quickly and seal up the tissues in order to retain the juices; next, the temperature should be lowered so that the meat is cooked uniformly through to the centre without any shrivelling or overcooking on the outside; and finally the temperature should be quickly raised for a short period to make the outside crisp and brown.

These conditions are secured by switching the oven on "full" until the thermometer registers the necessary temperature, by putting the food in and leaving it for a certain period, then switching down to medium until, within ten minutes or so of serving, the final rally is given by switching on full again. Temperatures and times have all been worked out for joints of various types and sizes; therefore the cook may, if she chooses, "cook by the book" with confidence. In any case, once she has discovered how to get the result she wants, she has only to

repeat the simple process of switching to be sure of getting the same result every time.

Cooked in this way, the joint will give the maximum of flavour and digestibility with the minimum of shrinkage. "Box cooking," as one may call it, with proper temperature control, ensures the happy medium between the undercooked and the shrivelled. Similarly, in roasting fowls, the fact that the cooking is not done in a stream of hot air avoids the necessity of repeated "basting," which is really an attempt to restore to the tissues the juices dried out of them. Nowhere is the "hit and miss" character of cooking more frequently displayed than in the effort to roast a chicken or a turkey; but with an electric oven this ordeal need have no terrors for even the youngest of cooks.

Take, again, the plebeian process of stewing. More indigestion and domestic disturbances have been caused by tough stews than by perhaps any other item in the ordinary bill-of-fare. The reason is merely that, without easy and accurate temperature control, the long, continuous simmering necessary for tenderness and full flavour becomes impossible. With an electric boiling plate, fitted with three-heat control, it becomes almost automatic. After boiling point is reached, the plate is switched down to "low"; thereafter the pot may be left to itself with the certainty that it will continue to simmer in the ideal manner.

Equally marked is the excellence of the electric grill. The radiant heater of an electric grill gives the intense uniform glow of the open fuel grill at its best; it never varies, and the grid which carries the chop or steak or rasher of bacon may be adjusted in a moment in relation to the source of heat. Throughout the grilling process, the food remains in pure air, uncontaminated by any fumes from burning fuel—a feature which has a distinctly beneficial effect on the flavour. Broadly, the claims made for electric cooking are that it yields the highest standard of results with the maximum of certainty and the minimum of labour. These claims account for its increasing popularity in all districts where electricity is cheap enough to make the running costs comparable with those of older methods.



ELECTRICITY IN THE KITCHEN: A DEMONSTRATION OF CAKE-MAKING WITH AN ELECTRIC COOKING-STOVE.

cision. Whatever any cooking process may call for in the way of changes of temperature or distribution of heat, the conditions are at our command by merely



ELECTRICITY FOR CULINARY PURPOSES: MAKING TOAST IN THE KITCHENS AT THE TRICITY SHOW-ROOMS, WELLINGTON HOUSE, STRAND.

turning a few switches. As most electric ovens are now fitted with a thermometer, the cook is able at a glance to discover whether the oven is "fierce," or "moderate," or "slow" with almost scientific

THE CRICKET IN THE ARENA.

CRICKET-FIGHTS AS A NATIONAL SPORT IN CHINA, AND CRICKETS AS "MUSICAL" PETS.

Abridged from an Article in the "Scientific American," based on a Monograph by Dr. BERTHOLD LAUFER, Curator of Anthropology, Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago.

KEEPING animals or birds in captivity may seem to some people heartless and cruel, but the keeping of crickets in China in order to enjoy their musical efforts and fighting ability cannot be so considered because of the loving care bestowed on these pets. Cricket-fights are not as cruel as the cock and quail fights in which the Chinese also indulge, nor are the three combined as cruel as the bull-fights of Spain and Latin America.

It is only the adult male cricket that sings; the young and the females cannot chirp. The male

prized. The crickets keep cool in these jars. Tiny porcelain dishes decorated in blue and white or small bits of clay contain food and water for the insects, and they are also provided with beds or sleeping boxes of clay. Jars of somewhat larger size serve for holding the cricket-fights.

During winter the crickets are transferred to specially prepared gourds with loose covers wrought in open-work to admit fresh air. The gourds used as cricket habitations are all artificially shaped. They are raised in earthen moulds; the flowers are forced into the moulds and as they grow they assume the shape of designs.

The covers of the gourd are made of jade, elephant or walrus ivory, coconut shell, and sandal-wood, all elaborately decorated. A kind of cement is smeared over the bottom of the gourd to provide a comfortable resting-place for the tenant. The owner of the cricket may carry the gourd in his bosom wherever he goes. The gourds keep the insects warm, and on a cold night they receive a cotton padding to sleep upon. In summer the insects are generally fed on fresh cucumber, lettuce, and other greens. During autumn and winter masticated chestnuts and yellow beans are given them. In the south they are also fed on chopped fish and various kinds of insects, and even receive honey as a tonic.

The fighting crickets receive particular attention and nourishment. When the time for the fight draws near, they get a tonic in the form of a bouillon made from the root of a certain flower. Some fanciers allow themselves to be stung by mosquitoes, and, when these are full of blood, they are given their favourite pupils. In order to stir their ferocity, they are sometimes also compelled to fast. A tickler is used for stirring the crickets to incite them to sing. In Peking fine hair from hare or rat whiskers inserted in a reed or bone handle is utilised for this purpose; in Shanghai, a fine blade of crab or finger grass. The ticklers are kept in bamboo or wooden tubes, the rich having an elegant ivory tube surmounted by the carving of a lion.

In the course of many generations, the Chinese have accomplished what we may call a natural selection of fighting crickets. The good fighters are treated in every respect like soldiers. The strongest and bravest, most appreciated at Peking and Tientsin, come from the southern province of Kwang-tung. These fighters are dubbed "generals" or "marshals," and seven varieties are distinguished. Those with black heads and grey hair in their bodies are considered best. Next in appreciation come those with yellow heads and grey hair, then those with white heads and grey hair, then those with golden wings covered with red hair, those of yellow colour with blood-red hair; finally, those yellow with pointed head and long abdomen and those supposed to be dressed in embroidered silk, grey, and covered with red spots. The good fighters are recognised by their loud chirping, big heads and necks, long legs, and broad bodies and backs.

The tournaments take place in an open space, on a public square, or in a special house termed "Autumn Amusements." There are heavy-weight, middle- and light-weight champions. The wranglers are carefully weighed on a pair of tiny scales at the opening of each contest. A silk cover is spread over a table on which are placed the pottery jars containing the warring crickets. The jar is the arena in which the prize fight is staged. As a rule, the two adversaries will first endeavour to flee, but the referee, who is called "Army Commander" or "Director of the Battle," intercedes, announcing the contestants and reciting the history of their past performances, and spurs the two parties on to combat with the tickler, first stirring their heads and the ends of their tails, finally their large hind-legs.

The two opponents, thus excited, stretch out their antennae and jump at each other's heads. The antennae or tentacles are their chief weapons. One of the belligerents will soon lose one of its horns, while the other may retort by tearing off one of the enemy's legs. The struggle usually ends in the death of one of them, and not infrequently the more agile or stronger one pounces with its whole weight upon its opponent, severing its head completely. Cricket-fights in China have developed into a veritable passion. Large sums are wagered. The stakes are in some cases very large, and at single matches held in Canton are said to have sometimes aggregated 100,000 dollars. Frequently

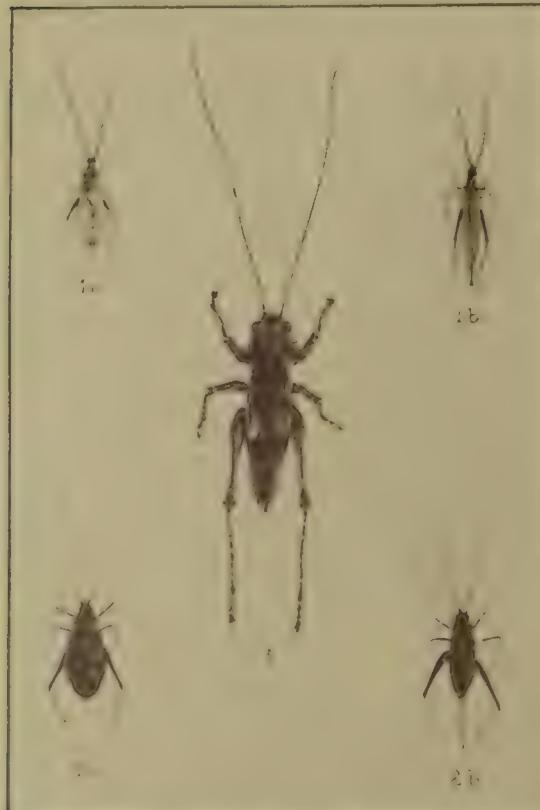
too ardent amateurs are completely ruined. Choice champions fetch prices up to 100 dollars, the value of a good horse in China. Some amateurs delight in raising them by the hundreds in the hope of producing the champion of the champions of the season, who is honoured with the attribute of Grand Marshal.

Two localities near Canton, Fa-ti and Cha-pi, not far from Whampoa, enjoy a special reputation for cricket-fighting. At these places extensive mat sheds are erected and divided into several compartments. In each section a contest goes on, the pot which forms the arena being placed on a table. The lucky winner is presented with a roast pig, a piece of silk, and a gilded ornament resembling a bouquet of flowers. This decoration is deposited by him either on the ancestral altar of his house, to inform his ancestors of his good luck and to thank them for their protection, or on a shrine in honour of Kwan-ti, a deified hero who is the personification of all manly virtues and a model of gentlemanly conduct.

The names of the victorious champions are inscribed on an ivory tablet carved in the shape of a gourd, and these tablets, like diplomas, are religiously kept. The victory is occasion for great rejoicing. The jubilant victor struts in the procession of his overjoyed compatriots, carrying his victorious cricket home. His glory falls on the whole community, and his village will gain as much publicity as an American town which has produced a golf or baseball champion. In southern China, a cricket which has won many victories bears the title "conquering or victorious cricket" (*shou lip*); on its death it is placed in a small silver coffin, and is solemnly buried.

All these ideas emanate from the belief that able cricket champions are incarnations of great warriors. Dickens says, "For all the Cricket Tribe are potent Spirits, even though the people who hold converse with them do not know it (which is frequently the case)."

As far as is known, China is the only nation that has developed cricket-fights. The Japanese, although



"GOOD FIGHTERS ARE BELIEVED TO BE INCARNATIONS OF GREAT HEROES": TYPES OF CRICKETS KEPT IN CHINA AS PETS OR FOR FIGHTING PURPOSES. The upper pair (Nos. 1a and 1b) are the male and female of a yellowish tree-cricket, and the lower pair (Nos. 2a and 2b) those of a black tree-cricket—the only kind of which the female is preserved, as necessary to make the male "sing." The middle one (No. 3) is a katydid.

produces his chirping sound by raising his wing-covers above his body and then rubbing their bases together, so that the file-like veins of the under surface of the one wing-cover scrape the upper surface of the lower.

Of the many species of crickets used by the Chinese, the females are kept only of one—the black tree-cricket, called by them *kin chung* ("Golden Bell," with reference to its sounds), as they assert that this is the only kind of cricket that requires the presence of the female to sing.

The ancient Chinese were more interested in insects than in all other groups of animals combined. The women in the imperial seraglio evidently found solace and diversion in the company of crickets during their lonesome nights. Instead of golden cages, the people had small bamboo or wooden cages which they carried in their bosom or suspended from their girdles.

There are various methods of catching crickets. They are usually captured at evening. In the north of China a lighted candle is placed near the entrance of their hole, and a trap box is held in readiness. Attracted by the light, the insects hop out of their retreats, and are caught in the traps made of bamboo or ivory rods. Some of these ivory traps are veritable works of art. Many people rear hundreds of crickets in their homes, and have several rooms stacked with the jars which shelter the insects. As soon as you enter a house like this, you are greeted by a deafening noise.

During the summer the insects are kept in circular pottery jars made of a common burnt clay and covered with a flat lid, sometimes perforated. Many potters made a special business of these cricket-houses, and impressed on them a seal with their names. There are old pots said to go back as far as the Ming dynasty (1368-1643), and these are highly



SPORT DATING FROM THE SUNG ERA (960-1278): BOY CRICKET-CATCHERS, ONE WITH TRAP AND JAR—

A TWELFTH-CENTURY CHINESE PAINTING.

Photographs by Courtesy of the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago.

fond of chirping insects, which they keep as pets in little cages, do not use them for fighting purposes. Kipling writes in his "Jungle-Book": "The herd-children of India sleep and wake and sleep again, and weave little baskets of dried grass and put grasshoppers in them; or catch two praying-mantises and make them fight." This may be an occasional occurrence in India, but it has not developed into a sport or a national pastime.

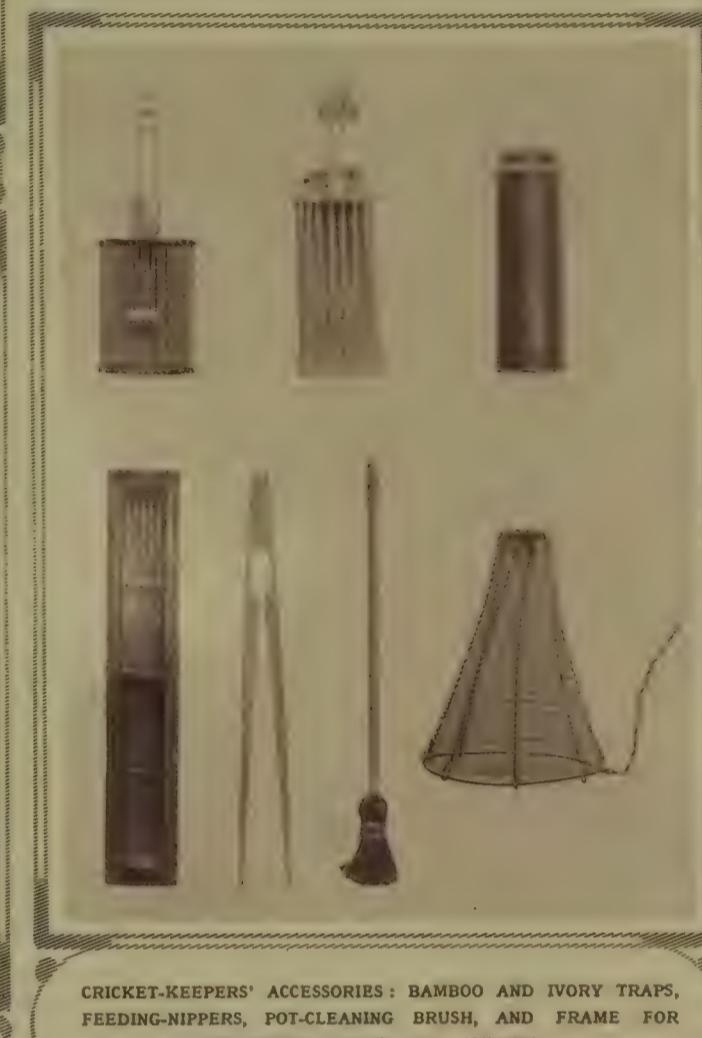
THE CHINESE CULT OF THE SHOU LIP: A LIFE OF LUXURY FOR CHAMPION FIGHTING CRICKETS.



"TINY PORCELAIN DISHES DECORATED IN BLUE AND WHITE CONTAIN FOOD FOR THE INSECTS": FEEDING-PLATES FOR CRICKETS.



"WINTER PALACES" OF PET CRICKETS: GOURDS WITH OPEN-WORK COVERS OF JADE OR IVORY EXQUISITELY CARVED.



CRICKET-KEEPERS' ACCESSORIES: BAMBOO AND IVORY TRAPS, FEEDING-NIPPERS, POT-CLEANING BRUSH, AND FRAME FOR USE WHILE CAGES ARE CLEANED.



"THE FIGHTING CRICKETS RECEIVE PARTICULAR ATTENTION AND NOURISHMENT": DECORATED PORCELAIN FEEDING-PLATES.



"SUMMER PALACES" OF PET CRICKETS: ROUND POTTERY JARS—THE LEFT LOWER ONE CONTAINING CLAY SLEEPING-BOXES.



"IN SHANGHAI AND HANGCHOW, GRASSHOPPERS ARE ALSO KEPT, USUALLY IN WOODEN CAGES FANCIFULLY SHAPED LIKE TABLES OR CHAIRS": TWO TYPICAL EXAMPLES.



TICKLERS (WITH A HOLDER): INSTRUMENTS USED FOR STIRRING CRICKETS TO FIGHT OR SING, MADE OF REED, BONE, OR IVORY, WITH RAT OR HARE WHISKERS.

"During the summer [we read in the article abridged on the opposite page] the insects are kept in circular pottery jars with a flat lid, sometimes perforated. . . . The crickets keep cool in these jars. Tiny porcelain dishes decorated in blue and white, or small bits of clay, contain food and water for the insects, and they are also provided with beds or sleeping boxes of clay. Jars of somewhat larger size serve for holding the cricket-fights. During the winter months the crickets are transferred to specially prepared gourds with loose covers wrought in open-work so as to admit fresh air. The covers are made of jade, elephant or walrus ivory, coconut shell, and sandalwood, all elaborately decorated. The owner of the cricket may carry the gourd in his bosom wherever he goes. In summer the insects are fed on fresh cucumber, lettuce, and other greens. In autumn and winter masticated chestnuts and yellow beans are given them. The fighting crickets receive particular attention and nourishment. The good fighters

(Continued opposite.)



USED FOR KEEPING SINGING CRICKETS, AND GENERALLY ATTACHED TO THE GIRDLE: A CARVED WALNUT SHELL.

Continued.

are believed to be incarnations of great heroes of the past. . . . A tickler is used for stirring the crickets to incite them to sing (or fight). In Peking fine hair from hare or rat whiskers inserted in a reed or bone handle is utilised; in Shanghai, a fine blade of crab or finger grass. The ticklers are kept in bamboo or wooden tubes, and the rich have an elegant ivory tube. . . . Cricket-fights in China have developed into a veritable passion. Some amateurs delight in raising the crickets by the hundred in the hope of producing the champion of the champions of the season, who is honoured with the attribute of Grand Marshal. . . . In southern China, a cricket which has won many victories is honoured with the title, 'conquering or victorious cricket' (*shou lip*); on its death it is placed in a small silver coffin and solemnly buried. The owner believes the honourable interment will bring good luck, and that excellent fighting crickets will be found in the following year near where his favourite lies buried."



The verdict "Too full" is never heard with a rigid expanding Revelation suit-case, for it will always take just that little more which the old-fashioned case rejected.

A Button for the Buttonhole. Appropriately enough, the first burst of spring brings out a thousand blossoming buttonholes. But this season a surprise is waiting. The smartest are not always those which represent flowers *au naturel*. A posy of tiny nautilus shells or a bunch of pear-shaped drops in crystal should decorate a tailored rever, and newer still is a round enamelled button with another to match in the hat. These "buttons" are varied in many amusing ways. Sometimes they are quite fat, shaped rather like a gooseberry, with diamond-shaped sections in different colourings; while others are flatter and longer, designed in the manner of heraldic crests. Diamanté or paste buttons are also an innovation for the button-hole. They look very effective against a dark suit, and match the beautifully designed rose in brilliants which is to be seen on many of the latest hats.

Knitting Becomes Smart Again. The ultra-moderns must prepare for a shock this season, for knitting of the real old "knit one, purl two" variety is appearing as a decoration for the latest jumper suits from Paris. A three-piece ensemble, for instance, carried out in pink romaine, has the stockinette jumper drawn in to the hips with a ribbon of multicoloured wool, and the neck and wrists are edged in the same manner. The long coat is straight and the skirt pleated. This is a very characteristic model, designed for the South, and later for spring days in England. Crepella and kasha, with jumpers of crêpe-de-Chine or stockinette, promise to be the favourite materials. Patou has completed a delightful lime-green jumper suit with a separate three-cornered handkerchief scarf in two shades of green, and the pleated skirt, which is also of crêpe-de-Chine, is piped with the darker nuance. Pleatings are everywhere, even on the pockets of the coats.

Thick Satin for the Evening. Another return to a bygone mode is the use of really thick white satin for evening dresses. One, by Patou, is draped round the figure, and a huge bow on one hip falls in loops to the hem. This bow at the side is a new silhouette which appears frequently. On another frock, in the peculiar dark navy-blue which is making its appearance at night, the line is quite straight, with the material embroidered here and there with triangular motifs in steel. On the hip is a bow with a long curving loop embroidered at one end. Pink lace is also much in

Fashions & Fancies

evidence in the early collections. At Harvey Nichols' you may find already several models proving how attractive are these new modes.

Hats for the Coming Season. The Riviera sunshine has influenced the hats earlier than usual this year. Perhaps we are so tired of bad weather that the milliners determined to diffuse an air of lightness and gaiety in their earliest models. There is a new delightful shade of blue-grey like a pigeon's wing, and a soft primrose, both fashionable shades, while the finest straw—a variation of hemp—is the favoured form of expression. There are many new models to be seen at Henry Heath's, of 105, Oxford Street, W., who specialise in large head-fittings, and will make hats in any colourings and designs. From these salons comes the little travelling hat sketched in the centre. It is made entirely of fawn ribbon petersham, so that it is exceptionally light and comfortable for the long journey in the Blue Train.



This neat little hat for travelling is wonderfully light and comfortable, as it is made entirely of petersham ribbon. It may be found at Henry Heath's, whose salons are at 105, Oxford Street, W.

Bargains at Burberry's.

Unlike most of the sales, Burberry's continues throughout February, and in their Haymarket salons there are inexhaustible opportunities for really sound investments. For instance, a useful weather-proof country coat, such as the one pictured on the right, built of Cheviot tweeds or Burella and perfectly cut, can be obtained for 5 guineas, usually ranging from 8 to 10½ guineas. There are many different materials and designs available at this reduced price. Then spring coats and skirts for town and country wear, made in gamefeather tweeds, cheviots and homespuns, in every appropriate shade, are available for 6½ guineas, ready in three different styles, and in all fittings. The well-known "Burberry" itself, which is the familiar friend of every country enthusiast, can actually be obtained from 73s. 9d. throughout these weeks.

Packing Made Simple.

Nowadays everyone travels. It may be a long voyage or a weekend, by road, rail, boat, or air; the same problem always confronts you, "What luggage shall I have to take?" The necessary number of clothes has grown enormously during the last few years. A well-dressed woman must have a different outfit for anything. Yet the trunk problem can be made negligible by the Revelation suit-case. This is never too full and never too empty—it simply changes size with your requirements. The patent expanding back enables you to have a case which locks at fourteen different sizes, and never loses its neat appearance. There are fibre canvas-covered cases, and leather ones, so that the prices suit every pocket, ranging from 30s. upwards. There are also

fitted dressing-cases, trunks, and attaché-cases built on the same plan. They can be seen, and full particulars obtained, at the head offices at 170, Piccadilly, W.

Scotch Goodies in London.

True Scots folk never like any cakes as well as those of their own country. And as London is full of Northern cousins, it is a matter for universal congratulation that the famous Edinburgh firm of J. W. Mackie and Sons have recently opened extensive premises at 11 and 12, Marble Arch, W. Here you will find the real Mackie's Edinburgh shortbread, Scotch buns, oatcakes, fruit cakes, and confectionery. The oatcakes are made from the finest Midlothian oatmeal, by a special method which makes their flavour and digestive qualities exceptionally good. The prices at this London branch are very moderate. Tins of shortbread can be obtained from 2s. 4d., and the confectionery, all made from the purest ingredients, is about 2s. the pound. The oatcakes are from 1s. 4d. a tin. Ordinary cakes for tea, both plain fruit and iced, are also specialities of this firm, and everyone who appreciates good things should make a point of visiting this little corner of Scotland set in the centre of London. A catalogue can be obtained gratis and post free to all who apply mentioning the name of this paper. There are many tempting illustrations, some in colour, of the delicious cake and confectionery.



An ideal coat for early spring days in the country is this proofed checked tweed from Burberry's, in the Haymarket, S.W., which is included in their present sale.

South Africa

WINTER IN SUNLAND.

3

LONG health-giving days of dependable sunshine; an abundance of delicious fruits freshly picked in the beautiful orchards of the South; wonderful travel attractions in a country famed for its splendid scenery and the invigorating air of its open spaces; a delightful social atmosphere and a wide choice of outdoor pleasures and natural amusements, including motoring, sea and sun-bathing, surfing, golf, tennis, bowls, dancing, moonlight picnics, etc., etc.

These are some of the varied attractions of a visit to South Africa—a real sunshine holiday as an antidote against the Summer of 1927 and the cheerless Winter months.

Full particulars of holiday tours may be obtained from the Director of Publicity, South Africa House, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2.

Descriptive booklets ("A.Y.")
free on request.



THE CHRONICLE OF THE CAR.

THE NEW AUSTIN "SIX."

I HAVE an entirely new car to describe this week—or rather, an entirely new model produced by an old firm. It is the 1928 light six-cylinder 16-h.p.

asked to try by the Car Mart, Ltd. I think the Austin is likely to turn out a really popular car as soon as it has proved its many apparent merits. I say "apparent," because, naturally, it is impossible to foretell after a brief trial how this or that feature of an entirely new model is likely to show

between this new six-cylinder and the very successful 12-h.p. four-cylinder, those details which have stood the test of time having been incorporated. What I can safely say is that the car gave me the impression of being built to withstand really hard work. There is a sensation of a big margin of strength everywhere,



ON A PICTURESQUE TOUR IN SCOTLAND: A ROLLS-ROYCE "PHANTOM" AT SHIELDAIG, ON LOCH TORRIDON, IN THE FAR NORTH-WEST.

Austin, selling at the rather remarkable price of £395 for the standard "Burnham" saloon, which I was

up at the end of a considerable mileage. There is, however, not much difference in the general design

which I found distinctly reassuring. The engine, which is of the usual monobloc type and has lateral valves, has a bore and stroke of 65.5 by 111, giving it a capacity of 2.1 litres, an R.A.C. horse-power of 15.9, and a £16 annual tax. The brake horse-power at 2400 revolutions a minute is said to be 40. The crank-shaft has eight bearings of good size; cooling is by fan and pump; and, except for one point, the general design of the engine follows popular lines. This exception is in the provision of coil-and-battery ignition in place of a magneto.

I have noticed with interest that this change is becoming more frequent, especially on six-cylinder cars and in Continental makes. It has a good many advantages, in my opinion; not the least of them being that the "works" can be accessibly arranged and—a seasonable thought—be out of the range of flood water. Another advantage of the coil-and-battery system over the magneto is that, as a rule, you get a greater range of advance and retard, and that, by careful manipulation of the lever, you get better results, on the whole, out of the average touring engine.

The Austin engine is lubricated by pressure in the usual way, and the chassis by grease-gun. These things are comfortably arranged for the owner-driver. The single plate clutch takes the power to a centrally controlled four-speed gear-box with a fairly low gear ratio. First speed is 20 to 1; second, 12 to 1; third, 8 to 1; and top, 5.1 to 1. An open propeller shaft drives the orthodox back axle.

The brakes number five, the usual four-wheel set being operated by the pedal, and a transmission brake on a drum behind the gear-box by the lever. I found both of them easy and efficient in operation. The springs are semi-elliptic to both axles, the back ones being unusually long and flat, which is as it should be. Shock-absorbers are fitted front and rear.

What I liked best about the Austin "Six" was its willingness. The car I drove had covered between 1500 and 2000 miles, but it seemed to me that it was not yet fully run in. There was a noticeable crank-shaft period at between thirty and forty miles an hour on top speed; but it may be that this will disappear in time. If I am right, and this car was not yet in proper training, I regard the liveliness it displayed as rather unusual. One must always judge cars with an eye to their cost in order to be perfectly fair, but I must admit that, to a certain extent, the performance of the Austin can be freely compared with that of cars I know costing a good deal more.

I had no opportunity of reaching the maximum speed of which the car



WINNER OF THE RECENT AUTOMOBILE RALLY OF MONTE CARLO: M. JACQUES BIGNAN, WHO TRAVELED FROM BUCHAREST IN HIS FIAT CAR.

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(Continued overleaf)

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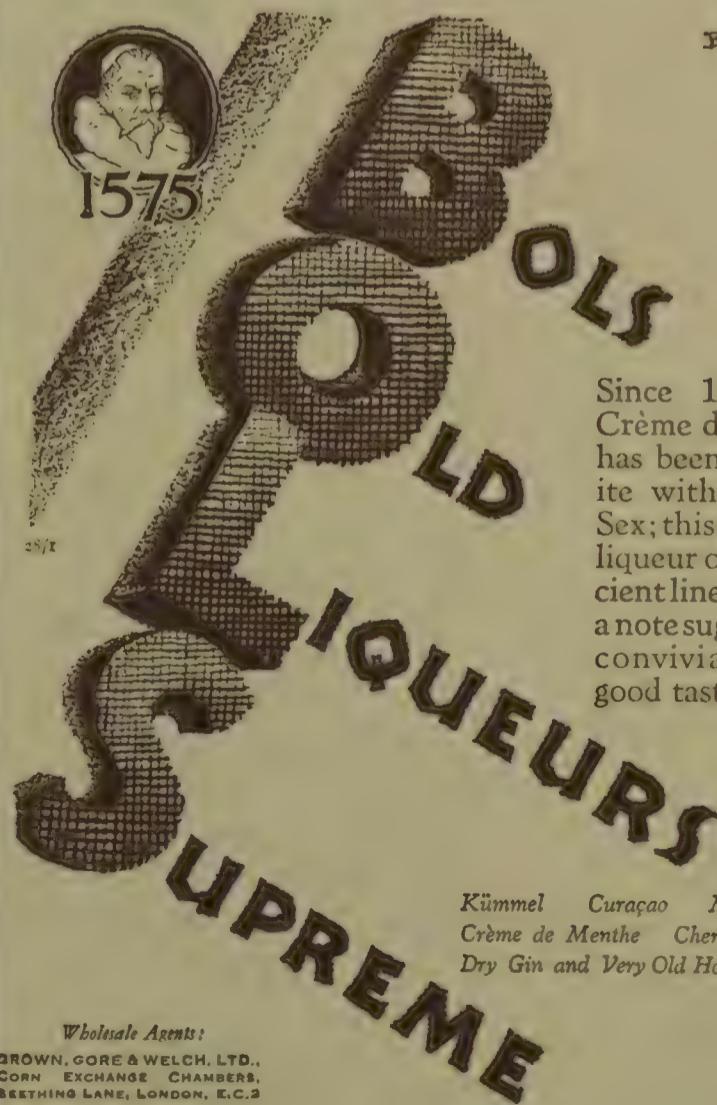
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SEETHING LANE, LONDON, E.C.2

Continued.
is capable, and, as a matter of fact, I do not know what this is supposed to be—I should say about a mile a minute on good roads. Still, it was not this possibility which interested me so much as the ready manner in which the engine picked up and got going quickly on top and third. It is a car in which really high average speeds should be possible without much effort on the driver's part.

The engine does not run particularly quietly when idle, but under load has very little to say. The gears, too, make very little hum, but there was a certain amount of this from the back axle gearing which was probably more noticeable in the saloon than it would be in an open car. Gear-changing is particularly easily accomplished, and double de-clutching is really only necessary when fast changes are called for.

The body-work is of the well-known Austin type, and very much like the "Windsor." It is comfortable without being luxurious, and the only point I did not care for was the height of the driving seat. This is due to the fact, I believe, that the petrol-tank, with its rather high filler, is hung in the chassis underneath the seat. The upholstery is in leather or in Bedford cord, according to choice, but if the *deluxe* model is preferred, which costs £435, you get furniture hide upholstery and a number of extras in the way of luxurious detail. There are four doors, and the windows are large enough. The driving seat can be shifted according to leg-length needs. It is quietly but well finished, and has an excellent appearance. The chassis costs £255. I think that the new Austin promises very well, and, although there are no startling innovations, it seemed to me during my trial a more definite improvement over its predecessors.—JOHN PRIOLEAU.

In connection with the photographs given in our last number illustrating the new British motor-vessel *Bermuda*, and the magnificent decorations of the public rooms and cabins by Messrs. Hamptons and Sons, Ltd., we much regret to find that a mistake was made in the spelling of the name of the architect under whose supervision the work was carried out. The architect in question was Mr. A. McInnes Gardner, F.I.A.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Communications for this department should be addressed to the Chess Editor, 15, Essex Street, Strand, W.C.2.

THE Chess Editor wishes to thank the City of London Chess Club and many correspondents from all parts of the world for sympathetic references to the death of his predecessor, Mr. H. J. Menzies, a man with a wide circle of friends who commanded the respect of all who knew him. The letters have been forwarded to the proper quarter, and will be dealt with through the post or in this column.

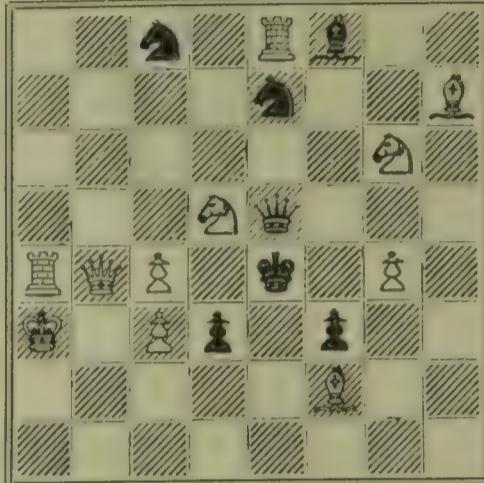
The writer vividly remembers being taken forty years ago, by his father to see the printing of *The Illustrated London News* as one of the seven wonders of London, and is very pleased to become associated with this old and historic publication, which has for so many years remained a link between Londoners widely scattered over the globe.

He ventures to express the hope that the old solvers and correspondents will continue to solve and correspond, and assures them that any suggestions or contributions will be welcomed and carefully considered. He particularly asks novices in problem-solving to send on their efforts without bashfulness (a failing which rapidly disappears as proficiency in chess advances), and will be pleased to assist or advise in any way.

Will solvers kindly note that only the *key-move* of a two-mover is required; and in the case of a three-mover only the second moves for White which are forced by Black's first moves?

PROBLEM No. 4019.—BY BRIAN HARLEY.

BLACK (7 pieces).



WHITE (11 pieces).

IN FORSYTH NOTATION.—2kt1Rb2; 4kt2B; 6Ktr; 3Ktq3; RQP1k1Pr; K1P1p1p2; 5B2; 8.

White to play, and mate in two moves.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

CHARLES WILLING (Philadelphia).—We are glad to know you are again to become a regular solver.

P J WOOD (Wakefield).—We are pleased to hear you found amusement in the "Bonbons." Of course you "dare criticise"—criticism is as welcome as compliment, and often more useful!

SHERMAN BODWELL (Sharon, Massachusetts).—We especially value correspondence from overseas, and welcome you to our circle of solvers. Kt to Q R 4th will not do for No. 4018, but you should not be discouraged by an occasional failure, which happens to the most experienced solvers.

E PINKNEY (Driffield).—We agree with you about No. 5 "Bonbon," which certainly demanded a good, hard pull!

A EDMESTON (Llandudno).—Thank you for your appreciation of No. 4016, which defeated many of our solvers.

R B COOKE (Portland, Maine).—Your Christmas two-er reached us, alas! a month too late. Many thanks, nevertheless.

ROBERT NICHOLSON (Crayke).—We are very sorry your kind message arrived too late to reach Mr. Menzies.

T C SMITH (Clifton).—In No. 4018, Q to K 2nd is defeated by Q to B 5th (ch).

L W CAFFERATA (Newark).—We are obliged by your kind letter, and quite agree with your remarks about the late Chess Editor.

H M LOMMER (London).—We thank you for your letters enclosing problems, which have only just reached us, and will examine them with a view to publication if suitable.

SENEX (Darwen).—In Problem No. 4016, P takes P (*en passé*) would be quite allowable if you could prove what Black's last move was! Problems have been composed where this is possible, but it is not the case here. The solution in three moves (Kt to B 6th) will be found in the issue of Jan. 7.

GEORGE PARBURY (Singapore).—Thank you for the problem by your Indian friend, which, though not suitable for publication, is most interesting.

MRS. RAWSON.—We are sorry your communication about the Girls' Challenge Cup reached us too late for insertion.

J ALMEIDA (Bombay).—We give our foreign solvers a three clear weeks from the date on which they receive the *I.L.N.* to the date upon their solutions. Your other point is dealt with above.

E BOSWELL (Lancaster).—We are replying to your letters by post.

ALFRED BERNAN (New York) and P J WOOD (Wakefield).—Thank you for the problems, which we will examine.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 4017—R to K 2nd; to PROBLEM NO. 4018—Q takes P.

SOLUTIONS TO "CHRISTMAS BONBONS."—No. 1, K takes P; No. 2, Q to Q B 6th; No. 3, B to Q Kt 2nd; No. 4, Q to K 5th; No. 5, P to Q 4th; No. 6, Kt to Q B 6th.

The favourite "Bonbon" was No. 5, which many found to be difficult as well as interesting. No. 1 also seems to have given trouble.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM NO. 4012 received from R E Broughall Woods (Kasempa) and Paul Asirvadam (Malay States); of No. 4014 from Victor Holtan (Oshkosh) and George Parbury (Singapore); of No. 4015 from V Holtan (Oshkosh), H Heshmat (Cairo), J E Houseman (Chicoutimi), J S Almeida (Bombay), Sherman Bodwell (Massachusetts), and George Parbury (Singapore); of No. 4016 from A Edmeston (Llandudno), J S Almeida (Bombay), N M Leckie (Ontario), V Holtan (Oshkosh), Charles Willing (Philadelphia), and R P Nicholson (Crayke); of No. 4017 from E J Gibbs (London), M S Maughan (Barton-on-Sea), J E Trezise (Walsall), Julio Mond (Seville), A Edmeston (Llandudno), J M K Lupton (Richmond, Yorks), J T Bridge (Colchester), R B N (Hardwick), Rev. L D Hildyard (Rowley), H W Satow (Bangor), E G B Barlow (Bournemouth), J C Kruse (London), and Mrs. Rodger (Rutherford); and of No. 4018 from L W Cafferata (Newark), R B N (Hardwick), R P Nicholson (Crayke), E J Gibbs (London), J T Bridge (Colchester), E G B Barlow (Bournemouth), A Edmeston (Llandudno), N Sidebottom (Newlyn), H Burgess (St. Leonards), and Rev. L D Hildyard (Rowley).

CORRECT SOLUTIONS of all six of the "Christmas Bonbons" were sent by R P Nicholson (Crayke), J E Trezise (Walsall), Julio Mond (Seville), J M K Lupton (Richmond), E Pinkney (Driffield), and P J Wood (Wakefield); and four correct solutions by H Burgess (St. Leonards), J T Bridge (Colchester), and J C Kruse (London).

DANCING IN MONTE.

MONTE CARLO being the most up-to-date Winter Resort, as well as the most attractive one, dancing, which plays such a large part in modern social life, is one of the items for which the Authorities in charge have provided in a particularly lavish manner. It stands to reason that all the important Hotels and Restaurants have an excellent dancing floor, and that *thés dansants*, dinners and galas are organised on a large scale, and take place daily in one or other of these.

The Casino Authorities, who, of course, do not rely solely upon the attractions of the local dancing entertainments, have themselves arranged for a series of very Brilliant Balls, three of these taking place in January, five in February, and five in March. The greater number will be held in the magnificent and spacious Music Room of the Casino, the entrance of which is situated on the Terrace, facing the lift conveying visitors from the Monte Carlo station to the terraces.

These Balls are exclusively reserved for members of the Sporting Club, and of the Cercle Privé, who are admitted without charge on presentation of their membership card, and who are entitled to bring two guests, for whom they must previously make application for cards at the Secretariat of the Service of the Fêtes of the Casino, which is situated under the Arcades facing the Café de Paris.

A very joyous and merry affair is the Masked Ball which is given on Shrove Tuesday, February 21; another is the Fancy-Dress Ball for Mid-Lent, on March 15; besides these, two Grand Floral Balls will be given in the magnificent Atrium of the Casino, for which tickets must be secured well ahead, as there are only a limited number of these and they are always much in de-



MONTE CARLO: A DELIGHTFUL CORNER IN THE CASINO GARDENS.

mand. Children have not been forgotten, three special afternoon dances are organised for them, these being Fancy-Dress and Masked Balls.



Something like -
-A LEAP YEAR PROPOSAL

The OXO habit saves many bills

RADIO NOTES.

RADIO enthusiasts with electric light in the home may now run their multi-valve sets from the electric mains, and by doing so avoid those sorrowful occasions, which most of us have experienced, when battery trouble renders a set inoperative. Battery-less receivers are now available with low-tension, high-tension, and grid bias current supplied direct to the set from a lamp-socket or a wall-plug; consequently, the owner of such a set is independent of batteries and their upkeep. The owner of a multi-valve set run by batteries may dispose of the batteries if mains current is already in the house, and, without alteration to the existing wiring of the receiver, may obtain a "battery eliminator," which in one form of apparatus will produce L.T., H.T., and G.B., or in other forms L.T. and H.T., or H.T. only.

Usually the high-tension dry battery is the least economical component of a three- or four-valve receiver, as after a few weeks of use this type of battery has to be thrown away and a new one bought. It is for that reason that high-tension eliminators are now so much in demand, for, once installed, they give unvarying power to all valves at all times with negligible addition to the electric light bill.

A good H.T. eliminator for direct current mains costs about fifty shillings, whilst one for alternating current may be had for about eight pounds, presuming that a four-valve set is used. The best eliminators have three or four "positive" tappings, in order to obtain voltages to suit the respective valves.

Eliminators are quite safe to use, and only the usual precautions as with electric light need be observed when making connections. The plug connecting the eliminator to the mains may be attached to a lamp socket if desired; but this method may be inconvenient if it interferes with lighting arrangements, and in any case the loose wiring is untidy. An adjacent wall-socket with combined switch is the best method of attachment; and in the event of a wall-socket being unavailable near by, the cost of having one fitted—probably about one pound—would be a useful investment.

Using an eliminator supplied by alternating current of 205 volts, the writer has found it desirable to attach a small label on the receiving-set switch, which, of course, only switches on or off the low-tension supply. This label bears the letters "H.T." and

forms a reminder when switching off that the mains current supplying the eliminator must also be switched off. Otherwise, the eliminator would be using up current all night and next day, thus shortening the life of its rectifying valve, apart from the unnecessary waste of current. When about to listen to broadcasts, it is advisable to switch on the valves of the receiver before switching on the eliminator. When closing down, those operations are reversed—switch off the eliminator first, and then switch off the valves.

Provided that low-consumption valves are used in the receiving-set, the accumulator which supplies them will generally hold its charge for three weeks, or perhaps longer. Then comes a delay of several days whilst recharging takes place, and possibly the trouble of carrying a heavy battery to and fro—or the risk of damage to the battery by irresponsible carriers. There is now no need for the accumulator to leave its accustomed position, for, with the aid of a small metal box known as a "trickle charger," whatever current is taken out of the accumulator will be put back again by leaving the charger switched on to the mains all night.

The Lena Ashwell Players will broadcast scenes from "Macbeth" on Feb. 1, from London, with Lena Ashwell playing Lady Macbeth. On Feb. 7, Mr. Temple Thurston's radio drama will be broadcast from London. The new play is entitled "The Burden of Women," and deals with the hardships of a wife who awaits her sailor husband's return from the sea.

Their Majesties the King and Queen have graciously consented to attend the special performance of "London Pride," a four-act play by Gladys Unger and Neil Lyons, which Sir Gerald Du Maurier is producing in aid of Charing Cross Hospital, at Drury Lane Theatre on Thursday, March 8 next. The theatre has been lent for the purpose by Sir Alfred Butt. Her Grace Susan Duchess of Somerset is the chairman of a large and influential committee, and has secured the help of many distinguished patrons. Most of the stalls have already been sold at three guineas, but a few remain. With a brilliant cast of London's leading actors and actresses, the matinée should be one of the most successful of the Lenten season.

MR. LORAIN TRIES MORE STRINDBERG.

After "The Father," in which he scored a triumph, Mr. Robert Loraine is trying at the Apollo another Strindberg play, "The Dance of Death," and, so far as his own performance is concerned, is only less successful because the logic of this drama of hatred goes all to pieces in its last few minutes, and there is corresponding inconsistency in the leading male part. Obviously this story ought to have been a tragedy—it should have ended in the madhouse or in murder. Here we see an estranged couple—artillery officer and retired singer—who are isolated on an island, and for twenty-five years have grown to loathe each other more and more venomously. Their children are away at school. The man is a tyrant and a megalomaniac who quarrels with everybody; all other human beings save himself are rascals and rogues. He is familiar with his subordinates, overbearing with his equals, and has many feuds with his wife. A devil of malice inhabits his soul; he seeks ways to exasperate his wife; there comes a time when he pushes her into a pond to drown her. All the evil that lurked in her has therefore been brought to the surface. When he is seized with a stroke she tries to hurry on his death. When her cousin, Curt, pays a visit, she throws herself at his head, uses him to plan her husband's ruin, and would, no doubt, at a pinch, have inveigled him into murder. Suddenly he shows a change of heart; he tells her that under his stroke he has learned the futility of hate; his motto now is "Wipe it off the slate and pass on." It does not ring true. Mr. Loraine has some marvellous moments which suggest the malignity of a Lucifer. Miss Miriam Lewes has only to let herself go a little more to provide acting equally impressive. Mr. Edmund Gwenn seems somewhat mis-cast as Curt; there is intelligence in his work, of course, but he is physically unsuited to the character.

The death was announced the other day of M. Ferdinand Mulhens, the head of the famous Eau de Cologne firm, "4711," who passed away in his eighty-fourth year. Apart from his business, his interest lay in the breeding of bloodstock, and his stud farm, which was in the neighbourhood of Cologne, was one of the largest in Germany. A wall over eleven miles long enclosed it!

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kidneys, and intestines. It regulates elimination without stringent action. In addition, unlike many salines, Kutnow's does not contain any sugar or anything else injurious to diabetic patients. This is a statement of fact which can be confirmed by your doctor, to whom the proprietors will reveal the actual formula.

Kutnow's Powder is both beneficial and agreeable. Be sure to ask for and see that you get "Kutnow's."

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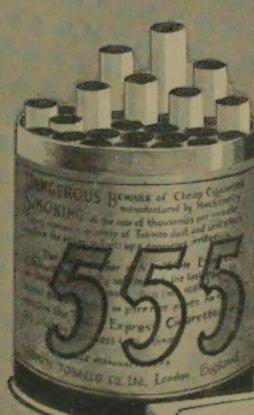
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